

~~SECRET~~

भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

फाइल सं०  
File No. C/125/2/78-JP

मंत्रालय  
Ministry of

खण्ड  
Volume

.....  
External Affairs विभाग  
कार्यालय

1413-SSA/86

Department Office of East Asia Division

टिप्पणियां/पत्राचार

6/11

NOTES/CORRESPONDENCE.

अनुभाग  
SECTION

को सूचीकृत की गई  
Indexed on

जानकारी  
Initials

विषय  
Subject

C Calling Attention Notice By Shri Virendra Prasad, MP, in the Lok Sabha on some valueables of Shri. Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, allegedly handed over to the then Indian Ambassador to Japan.

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27/4/1985  
अनुभाग अधिकारी (ई.ए.)  
Section Officer (EA)  
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली  
Ministry of External Affairs  
New Delhi

Note pages 1  
Cons. pages 1-8

पिछले हवाले  
Previous References

C/423/1/78-JP

SCANNED

बाद के हवाले  
Later References

C/125/5/78-50

DECLASSIFIED

(गौतम गुप्ता)  
(GAUTAM GUPTA)  
उप सचिव (ई ए ए) /  
By Secretary (EA)  
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली  
Ministry of External Affairs  
New Delhi

पत्र 97 (अखिरजनाय)/जी.एम.एस. 97 (Unbleached)/O. & M-58.  
प्रभासमुद्रक-105-19 जनरल एडमिन/73-74-भासमुद्रक-(सी-96)-12-2-76-50,00,000.  
MGIPCO-105-19 General Adm/73-74-GIPCO-(C-96)-12-2-76-50,00,000.





Secret

Memorandum of Extended Affairs

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E A Divisions file

M. C. 12572/78- TP is

Returned here with

Principles  
1.4.78

3542-NAO/78  
11/4/78

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1/4/78

EA Division

2562 EAD/78  
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RR

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D. 271-US (FE)/78  
27/2

(1)

Most Immediate

Parl. Question

266-Div(EA)78

28/2

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

Security & Political Division (Desk. III)

))))O(((

2375-Nu0178

1013178

Subject: Calling Attention Notice By Shri Virendra Prasad, MP, in the Lok Sabha on some valueables of Shri Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, allegedly handed over to the then Indian Ambassador to Japan.

A copy of a Calling Attention Notice on the subject mentioned above is enclosed. As the subject primarily concerns the Ministry of External Affairs, They may kindly see for information and action if any. In this connection attention is invited to the correspondence in their file No. C/423/1/78-JP- in which they have already started correspondence in the matter with the Indian Embassy concerned.

2. The factual position in this regard may also kindly be intimated to us for our information and record.

Dwarkanath  
( DWARKA NATH )  
DESK OFFICER  
TEL: 372050

MEA (Shri Pravesh Chandra, US (FE))

M.H.A. U.O. No. I/13014/5/78-2 (11) (S+P)

As instructed by Mr. N.K. Saha, Deputy Secretary in MHA about this call attention notice. He told me that such notices are for Minister concerned, immediate reply by the Minister concerned, if admitted. This notice was not admitted and therefore there was no need for a statement by the Government. No action is required on this notice. It is only for our information. We may, however, keep relevant information readily available to meet any more questions/queries etc. on this subject in the Parliament.

Copy to the Division

Mr. (EA) may kindly see

28/2

28/2



42

L.S.S./T.O. 6

CALLING ATTENTION NOTICE

PLACE : NEW DELHI

DATE : 23rd. February, 1978.

From : Virendra Prasad

To

The Secretary,  
Lok Sabha,  
New Delhi.

Sir,

Under Rule 197 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business I gave notice of my intention to call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs on 25.2.78 to the following matter of urgent public importance and to request that the Minister may make a statement thereon :-

I want to draw the attention of the House to a very serious matter of public importance. It has been recently published in an English weekly-Organiser that two boxes containing diamonds, precious stones and jewels etc. worth crores of rupees belonging to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose were handed over to the then Indian Ambassador late Shri M.A.Rauf by the Government of Japan and those boxes were given in tact by him to an ICS officer. However, the amount was never deposited in Government treasury nor any information had ever been given in this regard. The Government should enquire into the matter.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-  
Virendra Prasad  
M.P.



(2)

Most Immediate

(3)

Parliament Question

By Special Messenger.

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(East Asia Division)

Subject: Calling Attention Notice by Shri Virendra Prasad, MP, in the Lok Sabha on some valueables of Shri Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, allegedly handed over to the then Indian Ambassador to Japan.

Ministry of Home Affairs may kindly refer to their u.o.No.I/130/4/5/78-DIII(S&P) dated nil on the subject mentioned above. According to the copy of Calling Attention Notice enclosed with this communication, the Member had expressed his intention to call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs on 25.2.78 on this subject.


2. We will be grateful for information regarding any statement made by the Home Minister in response to this notice on 25.2.78 or any other action taken by the Ministry of Home Affairs.



(Pravesh Chandra)  
Under Secretary(FE)  
Tel. 373100

Min. of Home Affairs (Shri Dwarka Nath, Security & Pol. Divn)  
Min. of Ext. Affairs. u.o. No. dt.28.2.1978.

D-1573/EA/78

  
28/2/78



SECRET

(3)

Most Immediate  
Parliament Question

(4)

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

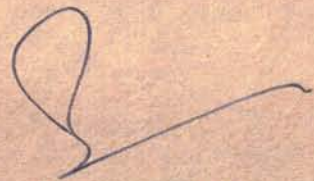
Subject:- Calling Attention Notice by Shri  
Virendra Prasad, M.P., in the  
Lok Sabha on some valuables of Shri  
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, allegedly  
handed over to the then Indian Ambassador  
to Japan

.....

The Ministry of Home Affairs may kindly refer  
to their u.o. No.I/13014/5/78-D.III(S&P), enclosing  
a Calling Attention Notice dated 23rd February 1978  
on the subject mentioned above.

2. A copy of the note prepared by the Historical  
Division of the Ministry of External Affairs on this  
subject is enclosed herewith for information.

3. This material has been derived from our files  
for the period 1946-1956 dealing with the subject of  
funds of the Indian National Army and India Independence  
League.

  
(I.P. Khosla)  
Joint Secretary(AD)

The Ministry of Home Affairs(Security & Political  
Division -Desk.III)

Ministry of E.A. u.o. C/125/2/78-JP dt.6.3.78



Ministry of External Affairs  
(Historical Division)  
.....

Soon after the surrender of Japan some quantity of gold, jewellery, etc. valued at approximately \$147163.00 was seized by the South East Asia Command in 1945 from the officials and others connected with the Indian National Army and India Independence League in South East Asian countries. These valuables were handed over to the Custodian of Enemy Property, Singapore, for safe custody.

When Pandit Nehru visited Malaya in 1946, he was given some gold bars by an Indian merchant in Singapore, Shri Hardial Singh. He had received this from Major-General Chatterjee of the Indian National Army on 14th August 1945. Shri Hardial Singh had informed the Singapore Security Bureau that the gold was in his possession. The gold bars were deposited in the Indian Overseas Bank in the name of Prime Minister Nehru in April 1946. In November 1953, the deposit was transferred to the name of the Representative of the Government of India under the instructions of Prime Minister Nehru. In April 1954, the gold bars were sold after obtaining the permission of the Controller of Exchange of the Government of Singapore for Rs.28,465/-. This amount was kept in a fixed deposit in the name of the Representative of the Government of India.

On 3 November 1954, the Custodian of Enemy Property in Singapore invited the attention of the Manager of the Indian Overseas Bank to a letter from the Custodian, dated 3 June 1946, addressed to the Bank, forbidding the disposal of the gold without the permission of the Custodian as the gold was believed to have come from enemy sources. After protracted correspondence, it was agreed by the Government of India and the Bank on the one hand and the Custodian of Enemy Property on the other that this asset should be divided between India and Pakistan in the ratio of 2:1 as had already been agreed to by these governments. This gold as well as the other gold and jewellery in the custody of the Custodian of Enemy Property were released by the Custodian in 1956 and the share of India was credited by the Government of India to the capital of the Indian Scholarship Fund which had been created in Malaya in September 1954, for the award of scholarships to deserving students of Indian origin in Malaya and Singapore

Historical Division

Dated March 2, 1978



## Swamy's charge against Nehru

By Our Staff Correspondent

BOMBAY, February 8: Dr. Subramaniam Swamy, M.P. and President of the Janata Yuva Manch, alleged here today that Mr Jawaharlal Nehru had misappropriated at least Rs. 2 crores worth of jewels and gold donated by overseas Indians to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

Dr. Swamy told a Press conference that Mr Nehru had cabled an ICS officer through the Indian Ambassador in Tokyo (now dead) to bring the treasure to New Delhi and hand it over to him.

In spite of persistent questioning from newsmen, Dr. Swamy refused to reveal the name of the ICS officer, saying he must first mention it to the Prime Minister, Mr Morarji Desai, who "knows the man".

He did disclose, however, that the officer in question was "now retired and living".

The value of the treasure which Mr Nehru secured for his personal use in 1952 was Rs. 2 crores and would now be worth Rs. 20 crores, Dr. Swamy alleged.

Narrating how he learnt of the "missing treasure", Dr. Swamy said that during the emergency when he was in London, he stumbled on some official cables, declassified by the British government, which mentioned that the treasure was "untraceable".

After investigating the matter, he found that in August 1952, the Japanese government, seeking to obtain India's sympathy, communicated to Mr Nehru that it was in possession of some trunks containing gold and diamond ornaments belonging to the Indian National Army. These were being returned as a mark of respect to the memory of Subhash Chandra Bose and to express gratitude for not demanding war reparations.

### CIPHER CABLE

Dr. Swamy said Mr R. K. Nehru of the External Affairs Ministry carried the message to Mr Nehru.

The late Prime Minister then allegedly ordered the ICS officer, who was on a tour of the U.S. for studying agricultural extension programmes, to proceed to Tokyo for "further studies".

Puzzled, the officer left for Tokyo and, after two months, a message was delivered to him through the Indian Ambassador in Tokyo, Dr. Swamy alleged.

He stated that the message on a cipher cable asked the officer to leave for Bombay immediately with two trunks that would be handed over to him at the airport by the ambassador.

The message allegedly asked the officer to bring the trunks directly to the Prime Minister's Teen Murti residence on arrival in Delhi.

Dr. Swamy related that the officer left by a BOAC flight for Delhi with the trunks, but the plane developed engine trouble in Hong Kong. There, special arrangements were made with the help of the Governor-General for the security of the trunks.

The Governor-General allegedly sent a cable to the British Foreign Office informing it that "two mysterious sealed trunks from the Japanese" were on way to India.

Dr. Swamy said that when the BOAC flight finally reached Delhi, Mr R. K. Nehru, who was waiting at the airport in his official car, demanded the custody of the trunks. The officer refused and showed him the cable in which Mr Nehru had allegedly specified that the trunks be delivered personally to him.

### TRUNKS OPENED

Dr. Swamy said the officer was driven to Mr Nehru's residence without having to undergo the usual customs formalities and taken directly to the Prime Minister's private study.

Dr. Swamy alleged that Mr Nehru then ordered the trunks to be opened after breaking their seal. The ornaments were intact but for a layer of soot.

Mr Nehru, Dr. Swamy alleged, asked the officer: "Have you brought anything else?" The officer replied: "Some Chinese tea."

An elated Mr Nehru then said: "You can keep it. If you ever want to sip tea with me, come anytime."

Dr. Swamy said that, according to his information, the gold ornaments were subsequently melted in Allahabad and credited to Mr Nehru's personal account.

Dr. Swamy said that in the light of his investigations, the inquiry into the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose should be reopened.

He also demanded that all files of cipher telegrams maintained in the Indian Embassy in Tokyo and the External Affairs Ministry should be sealed and the statement of Mr R. K. Nehru recorded.

Mr Morarji Desai should send a reliable emissary to contact the ICS officer and record his statement in detail, Dr. Swamy added that the officer is a man of "high integrity," though he did not state why it took so long for him to reveal the case.



(Miss) N.N. Haralu,  
Director (EA).

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI

No.C/423/1/78-JP

10th February, 1978.

386-456/78  
20/2

Dear Shri Ram,

This refers to our telex message dated 9th February 1978 reproducing news item from the 'Indian Express' of 9th February, 1978 entitled "Dr. Swamy urges probe into INA 'treasure'". This article has been carried by almost all the major newspapers.

2. According to Dr. Subramaniam Swamy, Janata MP, the INA treasure consisted gold and diamond ornaments donated to INA by Indians overseas. The treasure loaded in two trunks had been returned by the Japanese Government to India in 1952 as a mark of respect to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. Dr. Swamy alleged that in November 1952 Mr. Nehru sent an ICS officer to Tokyo and a cipher-cable was sent to the ICS officer through the Indian Ambassador in Tokyo (now dead). According to Dr. Swamy the decoded telegram read as: "You should depart Tokyo direct to Delhi with two trunks sealed and handed over to you by the Indian Ambassador at the airport. Upon arrival in Delhi please bring direct to my residence and hand it to me personally repeat to me personally."

3. Dr. Swamy alleged that according to his information "all these ornaments were subsequently melted in Allahabad and credited to Jawaharlal Nehru's personal account. Not a word of Subhash's treasure was heard again."

4. Since Dr. Swamy has specifically mentioned cipher telegram to the Embassy in Tokyo, will you kindly check your records of cipher telegrams and send your comments direct to Shri J.C. Pandey, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.

5. I am also enclosing herewith a clipping on the subject from the 'Hindustan Times'.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(Miss) (N.N. Haralu)

Shri A.N. Ram,  
Counsellor, Embassy of India,  
Tokyo.

Copy forwarded to -

- (1) Shri J.C. Pandey, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.
- (2) Shri C. Das Gupta, Counsellor, High Commission of India, London, together with a press clipping from the 'Indian Express'. Kindly see portion marked 'A'.
- (3) Coordination Division, in anticipation of further Parliament Question relating to bringing back a marble piece of a marble slab which formed the foundation stone of the Shahid Memorial in Singapore. This marble piece was brought back from Singapore by Pandit Nehru who handed it to Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, who took it to his home in Rawalpindi.
- ✓(4) US(GA). This subject should be dealt with by the Min. of Home Affairs, but in order to expedite the information we have written this letter. US(GA) may like to bring this to the notice of JS(AD). *Haralu*



# Organiser

Vol : XXIX, No. 40

Delhi, Sunday, February 26, 1978

Price : Paise 60

Why the Chinese

love the pigs  
and Muslims  
and Jews

hate them

(Please see page 11)

## Guilty silence over missing treasure

By Our Special Correspondent

### Why Government chose Chandrachud as Chief Justice

By Our Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI : Notwithstanding much controversy, Government decided to appoint Shri Chandrachud the senior-most judge of the Supreme Court as the next Chief Justice of India.

There was much criticism of his—and some of his colleagues—servile role, particularly during the emergency. But it was considered best, on balance, to revive the principle of seniority. As an official spokesman put it : "She, in her, dictatorship, had superseded judges twice. Had we done the same, it would have reduced us to her level."

In view of the bitter controversy, Government consulted

all the Supreme Court judges and all the Chief Justices of High Courts. The opinion was overwhelmingly for sticking to the principle of seniority.

With the solitary exception of Justice Bhagwati, who did not give an opinion—since, as No. 3 on the Bench, he was an interested party—all the other twelve judges of the Supreme Court recommended appointment by seniority. Two of them, however, additionally suggested a look at the Law Commission's recommendation on the subject.

The Government also consulted the Chief Justices of all the eighteen High Courts. Fifteen of them were for seniority. Two didn't give an opinion. And one—Gujarat—opposed the choice of Shri Chandrachud.

The Supreme Court Bar Association also voted for seniority by a majority.

Appointment of even the most distinguished outsider would not only have irked the entire judiciary, such an appointee would not have had the necessary experience of the Bench to do justice to the job.

In this situation Government thought it good and right to appoint Shri Chandrachud as the next Chief Justice of India.

The PM felt very strongly on the issue. Choice by seniority, he felt, was the only guarantee against nepotism and political corruption. "Otherwise the Chief Justice of India would, in the name of 'merit', be nothing more than a nominee of the Prime Minister," he said.

Some hard-headed men also argued that since most of the judges—whether of the Supreme Court or of the various High Courts—had been appointed by the old regime, nothing much would be gained by superseding this judge or that.

(Continued on page 15)

NEW DELHI: Although the fate of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose still remains a mystery, Prof. Swamy has helped solve the mystery of the missing INA treasure. He told the press in Bombay on February 8 that an ICS Officer had brought the two steel boxes full of jewellery from the Japanese Government and delivered them personally to Pandit Nehru. The CBI is already seized of the matter.

It is significant that neither Indira Gandhi nor R.K. Nehru, then Foreign Secretary, has denied the report. There is a guilty silence.

#### 'D' WAS SURPRISED

Meanwhile this correspondent has been able to collect some more details about this incredible transaction.

Shri D. ICS, had been sent to Japan for study on agricultural extension. He was living in Los Angeles. When, therefore, the Indian Consul in San Francisco suddenly gave him Nehru's orders to proceed to Japan for "further studies" Mr. D. was surprised because Japan has no agricultural extension—only an intensive agriculture. This was sometime in August 1952.

#### M.A. RAUF

The Indian Ambassador in Japan those days was a Muslim gentleman, M.A. Rauf, a family friend of the Nehrus, and now dead. Couple of months later, the Ambassador saw Mr. D. with a cypher telegram and decoded it for him. It read :

"You should depart Tokyo direct to Delhi with two trunks sealed and handed over to you by the Indian Ambassador at the airport. Stop upon arrival in Delhi please bring direct to my residence and hand it to me personally repeat to me personally".

On the appointed day, Mr. D. took a BOAC flight from Tokyo to New Delhi. D. remembers it as "the day Eisenhower was elected President of USA". That makes it Nov. 3-4, 1952.

It was only after Mr. D. was seated in the plane that the Indian Ambassador and two Japanese security men came to him and handed over two medium size steel boxes to him. Here the Ambassador again reminded him that he was to give the two trunks personally to

Nehru, and to Nehru alone. Mr. D. found it difficult to accommodate the two trunks around him. But he managed as best he could.

#### SIR ALEXANDER

It was evening when the plane reached Hong Kong. It was announced that the plane

### CBI Inquiry is on

would not proceed further because of some engine trouble. Passengers were to be lodged in a hotel for the night.

Mr. D. was in a dilemma. He was carrying some very special cargo for the P.M. Would it be safe to take it to a hotel? He had the presence of mind to ring up the British Governor-General of Hong Kong and tell him his predicament. Sir Alexander Grantham thereupon, sent his personal security staff to the airport and invited Mr. D. to spend the night with

him. The Governor-General reported to the British Foreign Office that "two mysterious sealed trunks from the Japanese" were on way to India.

#### A QUICK BATH

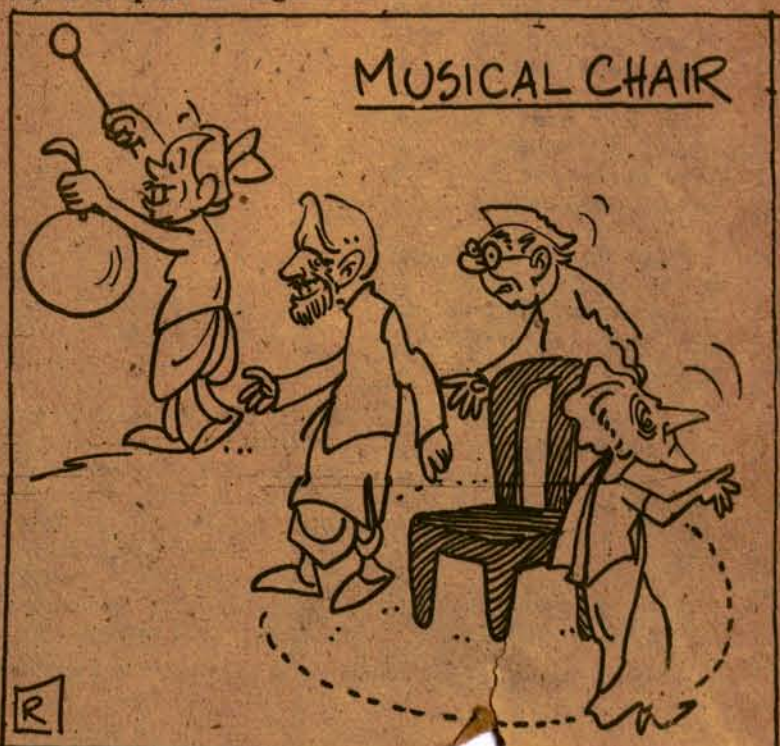
Mr. D. took a BOAC plane the following morning and reached Delhi after eight hours. At Palam he was the first to come down, carrying the two trunks in his own hands. He was met on the tarmac by R.K. Nehru, I.C.S., Foreign Secretary. R.K. wanted Mr. D. to hand over the two trunks to him. But Mr. D. refused—and showed him Nehru's cable. R.K. was annoyed but he didn't say anything. He took him out without a Customs check and asked him to accompany him straight to the Prime Minister's House. Mr. D. insisted on a bath first. R.K. drove him to his house where Mr. D. got down with the two trunks. R.K. asked him to reach Teen Murti House quick and then left for the PM's House.

While Mr. D. was in the bath and otherwise getting ready, there were repeated calls from the Prime Minister's House as to why he was so late. Mrs. D. was curious and uncomfortable. She did not like it all.

#### AN EAGER NEHRU

When he was ready Mr. D. left for Teen Murti House, where he was promptly ushered into the PM's Study. Here the anxious PM didn't even greet Mr. D. with a 'hello' or

(Continued on page 15)





# ANTYODAYA: Raising the poorest five per cent of rural population

... From Our Correspondent

**JAIPUR:** It was Disraeli who observed that every nation really consists of two nations—the rich and the poor. And it was Marx who noted that the rich were getting richer and the poor were getting better.

In our own country, more and more people have been falling below the poverty line. Ten years back 40% of our population fell below the poverty line—that is less than Rs. 20 per head per month on the 1962 price line. (Rs 40 in 1977). Today, according to Commerce Minister Mohan Dharia, anything between 60% and 67% fall below the Poverty Line.

## SHOCKING FACTS

Indeed the gap between the rich and the poor is widening—and deepening—all the time. According to a Planning Commission study, the bottom 20% of the population is benefited only to the tune of 11% by Government expenditure. On the other hand, the top 20% benefit to the extent of 35% by the same expenditure.

In this situation, India is too poor to think of a guaranteed minimum income per family. But the State of Rajasthan has made a great beginning in this direction by taking care of the bottommost 5% of the population.

It has launched a scheme under which the poorest 5% of each of the 33,000

villages of the State would be given help to make them stand on their own feet.

## 5% EACH YEAR

The scheme called 'ANTYODAYA'—which literally means "Rise of the Last"—among the poor—would, to begin with, benefit 1,65,000 families of the State—the five poorest families from each of the 33,000 villages—this year. The same

The basic aim of ANTYODAYA is, to provide primary help to the poor, resourceless people living in the interior and help them with facilities with which they could make their living. An off-shoot of the scheme includes provision of necessary infra-structure like roads, other means of transport, drinking water, facilities for farming, financial help, and setting up of cottage industries. According to Shri Shekhawat, most families selected in the first year of the scheme want land for farming. Government, therefore, has decided to distribute land to about 40,000 families. They would also be provided with agricultural implements, cattle

At the district level, Collectors have been instructed to identify such families as have no means of livelihood. They are being provided gainful employment through different means.

A series of measures are being taken at Cabinet level to seek avenues of massive employment for the poor. Rural industrialisation and cottage industry are two major props of this scheme.

Clubbed with this is the revenue drive all over the State in which all pending cases of farmers with Revenue Department are being sorted out. The revenue staff at different levels has been clearly told that they are there to help the farming community and solve their problems.

Kota is a fertile region of Rajasthan. This area is fed by the Chambal river and thus possesses a big potential for rich agricultural output. Industrial activity in Kota and stone quarrying in the adjoining areas have further enriched the potential of this zone. However, the condition of the people in its countryside remains pitiable. A large number of people here worked as bonded labour. The old Governments did not help them because Congress leadership in this region came mainly from the exploiting classes. These leaders had been hand-in-glove with the ex-Chief Minister. Thus Kota presents a horrifying picture of backwardness and poverty today.

## GANGA OF THE DESERT

A big problem common to all areas in Rajasthan is the non-availability of drinking water in the rural areas. Separate schemes are being formulated for this. This year's State budget would provide for tackling this problem. Some 22,000 villages in the State do not have sufficient sources of drinking water, which is either brackish or contaminated due to high fluoride content.

A major decision of the Janata Government relates to the last Congress Government's stand over Lift-Irrigation Scheme for desert regions. Two thirds of Rajasthan is desert, inhospitable for man. Vast areas have no vegetation—nor any habitation. For them, Rajasthan Canal is the only ray of hope. Though the scheme is as old as 1958, its progress has been very slow and it has so far covered Ganganagar district only. Work in Bikaner district is in slow progress. However, this is only half the journey. The second half is not only more important—as it would cover the farthest desert areas of the Jaisalmer district—but also the most difficult because of lack of roads, water and power for working in this area.

The last regime had tried to divert the water of Rajasthan Canal through Lift Irrigation systems without evaluating the cost-benefit ratio of lift irrigation. It has now been found

(Continued on page 15)

## A letter from the Editor

Dear Reader,  
Namaste!

Death occurred last week of Pankaj Mullick, one of the nobler voices of the twentieth century. But he will live long in his innumerable records—and in the hearts of his countless admirers.

And in Prof. B.R. Shenoy the country has lost a distinguished economist and 'ORGANISER', also a distinguished reader and contributor

Shri H. R. Gokhale also died last week. Evidently he could not stand electoral defeat and the indignity of expulsion from the Supreme Court Bar Association—for his actions as "Minister for Lawlessness" as Ram Jethmalani put it. But it must be said that he had brains. He knew more law than any officer in the Law Ministry. Men like Gokhale and Pai only hurt themselves by helping an amoral PM.

Our friend Kaderkutti who entertained the Chief Justice of India the other day (vide ORGANISER, January 15) is again in the news.

The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has passed a "cease and desist" order on his Western India Plywood Ltd., Cannanore. The MRTPC found that the Company was indulging in monopolistic practices through extraordinary bonus payments.

Shri S. K. Nigam of Kanpur takes exception to Shri Vajpayee's statement in Bangalore that, with its merger with Janata, the Jana Sangh is "dead and gone". He points out that the five Punjab rivers do not die when they merge in the Indus. Even matter, Shri Nigam points out, is indestructible. "Nothing dies; things only get transformed."

Shri G. K. Joglekar of Gadaj, Karnatak, is not sure whether to be happy or unhappy with the flood of advertisements—in our Republic Day Special. He feels that matter should not suffer at the hand of advertisements.

We entirely agree. But in a healthy paper, advertising revenue should not be less than circulation revenue. And we can assure Joglekarji that in the case of 'Organiser' the former is yet to catch up with the latter.

Shri Charala Narasimhamurthy of Eluru wonders what are those bottles in front of Swami Chinmayananda in the P-13 picture in our issue of Feb. 12. They are obviously tomato sauce bottles. Our friend Charala does not have to be suspicious.

Brotherly Yours,  
'M'.

## Rajasthan's Revolutionary Scheme

number of families from each village would be picked up for State help every year in order to remove poverty from the State by providing people either employment or helping them in gainful self-employment. The scheme, the first of its kind in the country, would benefit 8-10 lakh persons every year. The Centre, on the persistent persuasion of Chief Minister Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, has also sanctioned Rs. 2 crores for the implementation of the scheme which seems to be the first direct assault on poverty in this State based on backwardness and social taboos.

and financial help. In drought-prone areas, farmers will also be given a grant of 33% of the expenditure incurred by them on their land. Some public institutions and banks have also been associated with the scheme to eradicate poverty from the state.

## REVENUE DRIVE

Shri Shekhawat is personally taking interest in the whole scheme for which a separate cell has been set up in the Secretariat at Jaipur to monitor the new programme. The Chief Minister himself supervises day-to-day progress

## The Jorhat Miracle

... By Our Special Correspondent

**NEW DELHI:** It is learnt that the Indian Air Force Court of Inquiry has come to the conclusion that the November 4 crash of a TU-124 plane carrying the PM to Jorhat, was due to a loose screw in the altimeter. This probably prevented the pilot from knowing what height he was flying at any particular time. It is not known how—and when—that screw came to be loosened; whether it was chance or mischief.

It is also learnt that the current version of that incident is not the correct one.

The PM wanted to visit Jorhat and nobody in the IAF said that one hour will be better than another.

Before the PM explained, he was told that weather at Jorhat was not too good, but that they had made the necessary arrangements.

In the course of the flight, he was told that they might have to land at some other field and the PM said that that would be all-right with him.

AND THEN IT HAPPENED!

Published versions of the actual crash are also not correct. For example it has been reported again and again that the pilot overshot the field, went up, overshot again—when it hit a tree and crashed.

Actually, the PM saw the plane overshoot the field. He

Now  
it  
can  
be  
told

saw the pilot trying to go up—obviously to make a second attempt—or to land on some neighbouring field. But the plane just would not gain height! Either the altimeter was showing him a wrong—higher—height, or something had gone wrong with

the engines and it just would not gain height. It was in this condition that the plane hit a huge tree. THERE NEVER WAS ANOTHER TRY. The crew seems to have died of impact with the tree—and not of crash on the land!

Reports of the plane nose-diving—to take the punishment in front, and thus save the rest of the plane from a worse fate—are equally erroneous. When the PM had generously complimented the crew that they had died so that he and others may live, his statement was interpreted literally to mean that they had committed some kind of suicide to save the PM. Actually there was no nose-diving. As the plane failed to gain height after overshooting the field, it hit that fell tree.

Also it is NOT correct that the PM escaped unhurt because he was seated in a back row. He was seated in the very first row, within five feet of the pilot. Even his son Kantibhai who fractured his leg, was seated behind him. It was a miraculous escape, if ever there was any.



There is no charity in politics

—Gokhale

# Organiser

## No Short Cuts

ALTHOUGH the Indian Foreign Minister's visit to Pakistan has already been superseded in this country by his visit to Australia and his campaign in the South, it continues to reverberate in Pakistan. While it has generated some measure of goodwill, it was not a magic wand to solve old problems.

Gen. Ziaul Haq wonders why we can't make him a gift or two. We gave territories and POWs back to Bhutto. We have given a "generous" Farakka agreement to Bangladesh. We even gave separate trade and transit treaties to Nepal. And so, the argument goes, that if we can't give Kashmir to Pakistan, we can at least give it "a substantially favourable trade balance".

Well, we suppose there is no charity in politics—or in diplomacy, which is "international politics". If Pakistan asks for this half of Kashmir, we can only ask it for that half of Kashmir.

As for a favourable balance, we are dealing with trade, not aid. If Pakistan wants aid, it is a different matter. If it wants trade, it has to be business-like. Favourable balances are earned—they are not gifted. In any case it will be gift enough for it to buy scooters for Rs. 5000 apiece in India—rather than for Rs. 12000 apiece in Italy. If Pakistan trades freely with us, it will find that it gets its imports cheaper—and sell its exports dearer. And that is something.

We think the real problem of Pakistan is quite different. It has admittedly only an interim Government. We have to wait till that country gets a proper Government.

Nor are things going to be simple even then. Since before Pakistan was born, its people have been conditioned in a particular way. As Mazhar Ali Khan, a senior journalist of Pakistan, has written in "Viewpoint": "The people who claim a monopoly of wisdom and patriotism are not only, as usual, slow to learn, but they find themselves caught in their own trap. For decades they have run their political shop on a few slogans of hostility to India. If anybody tried to tell them that they were wrong in identifying the basic national issues, and were following an equally wrong method in settling matters with India, he was promptly dubbed an Indian stooge. Pleas for genuine detente in the region were denounced, because it was the religious duty of the Pakistani elite to out-Herod Herod."

In this situation friendship with Pakistan is not going to be acquired easily. But we have to try, to try again and to try yet again—until we succeed.

We must make it easier for Pakistanis to visit India. As far as possible, we must meet our requirements of wheat, cotton, rock salt, etcetera from Pakistan—in preference to any remote country. We must make more of our radio and TV programmes available to Pakistani audiences. We hope the Salal Dam project materialises. We could also enter a long-term agreement on supply of their Sui gas.

They want books from India; we must make the same available to them. We should give scholarships to Pakistani students. In the matter of jobs, contracts etc., we could give them the same favourable treatment that we give to citizens of Nepal. All these relationships will foster bonds which will render official antipathies irrelevant.

There is no short cut to friendship with an estranged State like Pakistan. The only way, short or long, lies through the heart of the common people.

## After 'Cosmos,' the 'Sky lab'

THE OTHER DAY, the Soviet spy satellite, Cosmos 954, crashed and landed on the earth. Fortunately it fell in the snow deserts of Canada, where it did no apparent damage. But it scared the wits out of those who knew that a nuclear satellite had lost its orbit and may land any time anywhere on the earth.

On January 12, President Carter summoned Russian Ambassador Dobrynin and told him he knew that Cosmos 954 was getting out of control. Dobrynin acted as though nothing much was the matter. He said that Cosmos 954 was "designed" to "disintegrate" as it came back into the earth's atmosphere and that there was no "possibility" of an "explosion".

But Carter was not so sure. He asked for details about the fuel of Cosmos 954—whether it was U-235 or what. After

anxious delays, Moscow revealed to USA the secret of its fuel.

At this stage Carter was in two minds whether to let the world know what was happening. Although to be forewarned is to be forearmed—however little—information was withheld, to avoid a worldwide super scare. The judgment proved right; the crash didn't hurt anybody.

But it was enough to persuade Carter to say: "I think we need to have more rigid safety precautions assured among all nations in earth-orbiting satellites, in fact, we would be glad to forgo the deployment of any satellites altogether, and will pursue that option along with the Soviet Union."

And now we have reports of an American nuclear satellite also set on a crash course. The U.S. Skylab is a 80-foot long space satellite, in fact, the largest piece of space equipment rotating round the earth. It was first launched in 1973. The North American Air Defence Command (NORAD) located at Colorado Springs in Colorado, keeps its eye on these satellites, and its offices say the Skylab was supposed to come down in a year's time. However, after the crash of the Russian Cosmos 54 new evaluations were made and now it appears that the satellite is losing height at a much faster rate than it was thought. It might come down in a few months' time. Plans are afoot to send a missile out to boost its speed so that the Skylab can survive some more months. However, nobody seems to know where in the earth it is going to land when it does choose to land.

The two mishaps—one actual and the other impending—should convince the superpowers that they need to control their explosive "experiments" very much more than any other country.

## Allopathic herbs

ONLY the other day the Director-General of World Health Organisation said: "Let us not be in any doubt: modern medicine has a great deal to learn from the collector of herbs."

And now a team of American doctors, sponsored by the Southern Illinois University (USA), is gauging the potential of Ayurvedic herbal medicines for primary health care in the USA.

Dr. Glen Davidson, project coordinator, says that the systematic approach and inherent features of Ayurveda will have some impact on the medical profession in the USA. The "wholistic" concept in Ayurveda, which seeks to treat the disease in relation to the totality of the body, as compared to the "specific" treatment meted out by modern medicine, is of particular significance.

Many caronic diseases have been treated with Ayurveda and the surprising lack of side-effects is important. Dr. Davidson also feels that this branch of Indian medicine could contribute significantly to the cure of skin cancer, hypertension and arthritis among other



## Real Comrades

diseases. Already "Serpina" (Ayurvedic 'Sarpagandha') is an accepted cure for hypertension and high blood pressure.

For long decades, Ayurveda has been eclipsed by the more profitable—and more prestigious—allopathy. But fact is that, surgery apart, Ayurved is superior to allopathy. The reason is simple: allopathic medicines—with the exception of anti-biotics, which have their own dangers—are inorganic, which do not go well with the human organism. On the other hand, Ayurvedic potions are organic, being derived from herbs, which are living matter. They, therefore, go very well with the human system.

To this day more Indians are treated by Vaidas and Hakims than by "Angrezi" Doctors.

While nobody wants Ayurved to be patronised on "patriotic" grounds, it will be highly unpatriotic to subject it to continued official neglect. Let Ayurved be given the same facilities as allopathy—and then let the people decide how much they will have of which system.

## INTUC is a Warning

THE AITUC started as a genuine industrial labour organisation, backed both by Congressmen and Communists. After the 1942 movement, however, Communists virtually took over the organisation.

When freedom came, Congress, therefore, found it necessary to found a new labour organisation. It organised the INTUC.

While INTUC ended Communist near-monopoly in the labour field, it became a victim of its own genesis—and became a lap dog of the Congress rather than the watch-dog of labour interests. On the eve of every general election, it appealed to labour to vote Congress. Whenever there was a clash of interests between Government and Labour, INTUC sided with the former. Government and business united to foist INTUC on workers even where it had little support.

With the rout of the Congress in March 1977, the INTUC found its bottom knocked off. It made prompt approaches to the Janata Government that it had always been pro-Government—and would continue to be so in the future too! The organisation has already given up its flag, which was the same as the Congress flag. And seven members of its executive of 21 have joined the Janata Party. There is no doubt that, left to itself, INTUC would wither away like the Congress.

The fate of INTUC should be a warning to those who have been trying to put together a labour organisation under Janata Wings. Such an organisation, if and when it materialises, will tend to become a puppet organisation of the ruling party. All those interested in labour welfare, must prevent any such betrayal of industrial labour.

## Words of the Week

There was much madness but no method in the Emergency. If I tell the facts, I believe I am going to be finished.

—Navin Chawla

Indira Gandhi has established a new record of personality cult by suffixing her name to her new party.

—Dr. Karan Singh

Bhutto goes to Indira and comes back to tell he has got Pakistani territory back. A little later he says that he has got the 95,000 POWs back. What do I bring back if and when I go to India?

—Zir-ul Haq

Nehru asked me many times to be Vice-President, but I always refused. I was not going to sit in Parliament.

—Shradha Mata

If a Chief Minister has to sneeze, he is asked to come to New Delhi.

—Sheikh Abdullah



# Arms Race and exploitation go together

... Dr. S. C. Gangal,

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS, JNU

A GREAT DEAL has been written in recent years about various disasters confronting mankind to-day, such as poverty, overpopulation and environmental pollution. But, manifestly, the most awesome threat to human survival is the escalating arms race all over the world, especially between the two super-powers—the United States and the USSR. Fittingly, therefore, the UN General Assembly, as early as 1959, described the disarmament and arms control question as “the most important one facing the world to-day”.

The arms race has grown manifold since 1959. As such there is much greater concern with the problem of disarmament in recent years. In 1970, the United Nations declared the Seventies as the Disarmament Decade, and in May this year a special session of the UN General Assembly is due to be held in New York.

## FANTASTIC

World military budgets have now crossed the figure of \$ 350 billion a year, which works out to 40 million dollars (3.5 crore rupees) every hour of the day and night. These expenditures are 165 times more than the total amount spent on peace

and development all over the world under the UN auspices. About 80 per cent of these are spent by major industrial states who are members of the various military alliances. But an alarming feature of military spending is that lately more and more third-world countries are allocating an increasing share of their scarce resources

in the United States, it is estimated that, as of today, 15-20 per cent of bauxite and copper, 8-10 per cent of iron and manganese, and 5-8 per cent of petroleum are being used up in the world-wide armaments programme out of the total world supply of these scarce commodities. Nearly half a million scientists, engineers and

government spending on health and medical services in the world and, indeed, it exceeds the total national income of the third world countries.

## OMINOUS

A particularly dangerous aspect of the world armaments programme in recent years has been the growing arms trade between the industrialised countries and the third world. All the transactions in this trade are not known. But even on the basis of the limited available data, its volume in the first half of the present decade

**Armaments are necessary to sustain this exploitative order of things. Hence disarmament can be effective only if it proceeds simultaneously with the efforts to establish a new international economic order.**

to the acquisition or manufacture of armaments. Their share of world military expenditure has risen from a bare 5 per cent in 1955 to around 20 per cent today.

It is not only the limited financial resources of the world which are being depleted as a result of the armaments race. On the basis of a 1970 survey

technologists—about half the world's scientific and technical personnel—are engaged in military research and development at a cost of 25 billion dollars a year. This amount represents about 40 per cent of all public and private research and development expenditure in the world today. The total world military expenditure is twice as much as the total

was of the order of 20 billion dollars. The grave dangers implicit in this arms trade are two-fold. First, it leads to an enormous diversion of scarce third-world resources for non-productive uses. Secondly, the vast concentration of highly sophisticated armaments in the region tends to exacerbate tensions and promote instability. In this context, it is significant

that nearly all the armed conflicts that have taken place across the globe since World War II, have been in the third-world; and the weapons that have been used have mainly come from the industrialised countries.

In view of these alarming aspects of the arms race, it is necessary to give serious thought to, and initiate meaningful programmes of disarmament. To this end, a series of disarmament or arms control agreements have been signed under UN auspices or otherwise during the last two decades, notably the Partial Test Ban Treaty (PTBT) of 1963, the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) in 1968, SALT-ABM Treaty in 1972 and the Vladivostok Accord in 1974.

## MAY 1978

The PTBT, as its very name suggests, is a partial or half-hearted exercise. The nuclear weapon powers, France and China, refused to sign it. Moreover, even for the other signatories it did not ban underground testing. Hence it created no difficulties for the nuclear weapon states. The NPT, as is now widely known here and elsewhere is a patently discriminatory arrangement. In any case, it puts no curbs on the on owing nuclear weapons programme of the super-powers and the other nuclear-weapon states. Hence as a disarmament measure, it is neither here nor there. As for the SALT agreements, they are a bilateral agreement designed primarily as a balance of power exercise between the two super-powers and not as a measure directed towards world disarmament. Hence the field is wide open for new, meaningful initiatives on disarmament in the special General Assembly session in May and, also, at the preparatory meeting in Geneva this month.

Disarmament, however, is not an isolated problem. It is a debatable question whether armaments cause wars and tension or whether armaments themselves are maintained to deal with political and other conflicts arising out of various other causes. It is like the egg and hen controversy which we had better not pursue further. Perhaps, it would be reasonable to say that disarmament is a part of the larger problem of world order which has many facets such as economic, territorial, strategic and political.

There are, first, the wide disparities between the so-called rich North and the poor South. One quarter of the world's people—the industrialised countries—own three-quarters of its wealth and resources; while three-fourths of the world's population—in the third world countries—suffer in poverty, backwardness and illiteracy. Armaments are necessary to sustain this exploitative order of things. Hence disarmament can be effective only if it proceeds simultaneously with the efforts to establish a new international economic order.

Secondly, apart from wide economic disparities, there are numerous political or territorial disputes among the nations of the world, especially in the third world, such as the disputes between the Arabs and

# Running battle between Steel and Energy Ministries

THOUGH the decision of the Union Cabinet to permit the Steel Ministry to import over one million tonnes of high grade metallurgical coal on the basis of global tenders has removed a major point of friction between the Steel and Energy Ministries, the two are still pointing their guns at each other over another matter—the control of coking coal washeries.

## PRODUCTION DOWN

In fact, the running feud between the two Ministries over the glaring failures of the Coal India Ltd. the apex authority of all coalmines created after complete nationalisation in 1973, has highlighted not only the unsatisfactory performance of the CIL in the matter of uninterrupted coking coal supplies, but also its general performance in terms of poor output in the current year—88 million tonnes as against 101 million tonnes last year—and grand total of piling up losses—over Rs 500 crores since nationalisation in 1973. In the current year the total loss is likely to be Rs 80 crores.

The Energy Ministry's explanation is that the shortfall in coal production this year is not entirely due to any endemic maladies of the CIL. It is due to shortfall in supply of explosives, power shortage and strained labour situation. The situation has improved during

the last two months and now the daily turnout is said to be 25% higher than that in November 1977.

However, the fact remains that there is near confusion in the top hierarchy of the CIL, leading to lack of much-needed coordination among various wings. This has been the situation since the recent reorganisation of the CIL set-up whereby the apex body's powers were clipped and the chairman-managing directors of its three subsidiaries were made chiefs of autonomous bodies. This

various units and various wings of the CIL are moving in different directions, devoid of any perspective.

The net result is that production is falling short of current annual target this year by some 15 million tonnes and pit-head stocks have come down from the safe level of 10 million tonnes to 8 million tonnes. Moreover, illegal mining (by sub-contractors) pilferage in transit and black marketing by diversion of wagons to non-scheduled areas is on the increase. This is the inevitable

**Imported coal will cost many times more than indigenous coal**

has resulted in a kind of “neither here nor there situation” which does not allow true independence to the subsidiaries even while loosening up the earlier set-up.

To cap it all, a sort of ‘brain drain’ is threatening Coal India. It was there since the nationalisation, but it seems to have been accelerated recently, with some half a dozen middle-to-high executives leaving to try their luck elsewhere. This is said to be due to a feeling of drift, so that it is said that the

result of the general shortage of coal, so that a trainload of coal brings a blackmarket premium of nearly Rs one lakh.

Some State Governments, like that of Orissa, have complained of such diversion of allotted stocks.

However, the conflict between the Ministry of Steel and Mines and that of Energy over the matter of control over coal production, tells its own tale of lack of coordination between two departments of the Union Government. It is strange but

*Economic  
Commentary  
by  
Our Economic  
Correspondent*

true that while coal mining was detached from the Ministry of Steel and Mines in 1973 after nationalisation—to make it part of the Energy Ministry for better energy planning—the top bureaucrats of the coal and other Departments of the Energy Ministry are hardly on speaking terms with each other. And the Ministry of Steel is fretting and fuming in its own parlour for lack of control over coking coal supplies. Being the major user of metallurgical coal in the country, the Ministry rightly feels that coal mining should also be placed under its wings.

## QUALITY WORSE

A recent report says that unless the quality of coal supplied to the Bokaro Steel Plant improves, its blast furnaces may have to be closed down. For while steel production has already over-shot the target of the year by about half a million tonnes—and by the end of the current financial year it may touch the 10 million mark as against less than 9 million last year—the Steel plants are severely handicapped because of the high content of ash in the coking coal supplied to them.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued on page 14)



# Orissa Chief Minister in serious trouble

**BHUBANESWAR :** The seven-month old Janata administration in Orissa is still to register itself on the minds of the people. Its performance so far has been lackadaisical. Quiescence in administration has created an impression that both the party and the Government are rudderless.

After the June 1977 elections, there was keen rivalry for leadership of the State Legislature party. There were quite a few aspirants. But due to the support of Biju Patnaik, Shri Nilamani Rautaroy became C.M.

The main argument against the Chief Minister is that although he has long experience as legislator and minister, he lacks dynamism. In the political circles of the State,

he is regarded a second ranker. Besides, his uncommunicativeness does not endear him to his colleagues.

His another minus point is that he was not arrested during the Emergency although he was the leader of the Pragati Party, the then main opposi-

cut short those underground workers who went to him for guidance and financial help. Just on the eve, and again after, the Assembly elections, when his choice as leader of Janata Assembly Party became known, the Emergency period Chief Minister, Shrimati Nandini Satpathy, who had since

nineteen months in incarceration, find it difficult to support the CM. Both of them feel that even singly, they command greater support in the Assembly Party. They are therefore waiting in the wings for an appropriate moment to oust him from the leadership.

On the organisational front, the Janata Party position is no

## Some Janata MLAs may defect to Reddy Congress?

tion in the State Assembly. Rather his election to Rajya Sabha during those dark days, against the wishes of most of the members of the erstwhile party, disrupted its solidarity; most of the Swatantra members who had joined it, left the party in protest.

Further he allegedly avoided underground activities and

joined the C.F.D., made an oblique reference to Shri Rautaroy's quiet "undertaking to the then Government for which he was not arrested although most of the opposition leaders were put behind the bars.

Shri Prahlad Mallik and Shri Pratap Chandra Mohanti, senior ministers, who spent

better. The erstwhile Socialist leader, Shri Bishwanath Pandit, who was nominated as President of the party, has not shed his old party affiliations. In the reorganisation of district Janata committees, he is pushing his old party associates, to the annoyance of others. Needless to say Socialists never had a strong base in the State. To counter his plan, others in the party are forming separate youth organisations. These organisations swear by Janata party ideology. Three youth organisations have sprung up within these seven months but none of them is prepared to be guided by the State President of the Party.

Of these three organisations, the Orissa Yuva Janata, formed by a few legislators of the ruling party, levelled grave charges of corruption against certain ministers. They held a week-long campaign against corruption.

The sterile leadership of the Janata has disappointed the people. Like Congressmen, they have no ideology, no principles. The present leaders in the State Janata Party, barring a few, were Congressmen in the past. No wonder their qualities remain unaltered though the label has changed. "What better can you expect of them?" people often say.

While the State has slipped into political and economic doldrums, a section of the partymen are planning to join the Reddy Congress. On this question the erstwhile Utkal Congress—which subsequently became Pragati Party and later joined B.L.D. to merge ultimately into the Janata—is sharply divided. Those who wish to return to the parent body argue that it was because of Indira Gandhi that they had left the Congress in 1969. Since she has been ousted, there could be no objection to their returning to the old fold.

But the major section of the party is not enthusiastic about leaving Janata. They know that Janata can carry on even without them. They also fear that people in general would not like the break up of the Janata. But the so-called "progressive" group wants to strengthen the Congress with C.P.I. and leftist forces that have not joined Janata.

Soon after the Congress split last month and Shri Biju Patnaik's quick visit to Bhubaneswar, the atmosphere was surcharged with rumours that a big chunk of the Orissa

## Parents still prefer Sons!

... Padmavati Rana, Gwalior

Notwithstanding the modern "equality of sex", a large majority of parents throughout the world still prefer sons.

According to a Population Reference Bureau survey, even in USA, "twice as many women prefer boys, and the husbands prefer boys over girls by as much as 3 or 4 to 1."

When the women were asked why, the most common reasons were to please their husbands, to carry on the family name and to provide a companion for the husband. Girls were desired as companions for the mothers, because it was fun to dress them and fuss with their hair, because they were easier to raise and more obedient, because they could do housework and care for other children and because they were cuter, sweeter and not as mean.

In Bangladesh, 91 per cent of those asked said they would rather have boys. Only 2 per cent preferred girls and the rest said either. In India, 78 per cent preferred boys, 5 per cent girls and 17 per cent either.

Janata Party, including the erstwhile Socialists, would join Reddy Congress after the coming Assembly elections to five States. Shri Binayak Acharya, U.P.C.C. President, is said to be in contact with some leaders of the Orissa Janata Party. He is reported to have offered the post he is presently holding to a veteran leader who has not associated himself with any party.

Meanwhile, the Indira Congress leader of Orissa, Shri Janaki Ballav Pattnaik, is trying to organise the Indira faction. Koraput D.C.C. held its meeting on January 31 at Jeypore and the District President, Shri Raghunath Patnaik, later declared that the D.C.C. had in a resolution, supported the Congress led by Indira Gandhi. Prior to the passing of the resolution, as stated by him, there were angry exchanges among the members over the presence of a few outsiders and when the D.C.C. President announced that they were invitees, three of the five Congress M.L.A.s of the district along with some D.C.C. members walked out of the meeting. Two days later U.P.C.C. President removed Shri Raghunath Patnaik from D.C.C. Presidentship and appointed Shri Ram Chandra Ulaka in his place.

Whatever Shri J. B. Patnaik may claim about the support of Congress M.L.A.s, to the Indira faction, the fact is otherwise. The Reddy Congress might gain in strength in the State through defections from Janata, but the conventionists have no future in the State.

There is one exception. Shrimati Nandini Satpathy is lying low at the moment but she is not inactive. Her disenchantment with the Janata and her new-found love for Indira Gandhi are only too apparent. Her followers in the Congress and outside are awaiting her signal to swell the ranks of Indira Congress.

## Congress conspiracy to agitate Headworks issue exposed

... From Our Correspondent

**CHANDIGARH:** Soon after Shrimati Indira Gandhi's doomsday in March last year, one of her foxier followers in Punjab had remarked: "We have grown so much cactus in the politico-administrative set-up that it would be a treat to see Janata rulers dance with the thorny itch." Most of the cactus have wilted in the exposures before the Shah Commission but some remain.

The Punjab canal headworks issue as a direct legacy of the Congress rule which specialised in a generating irritants to create inter-State disputes and then blackmailing the disputants to Central Congress submission. By the time Punjab was reorganised—to create Haryana and the present Punjab and Himachal Pradesh—it had become plain to Congress bosses that their days in Punjab were numbered. The Centre, which had then only recently passed on to Shrimati Indira Gandhi, wanted to introduce irritants which could not only keep Punjab entangled with the neighbouring States but keep the options for Central intervention wide open. The Punjab canal headworks, the Chandigarh city and the territorial adjustment on the basis of "spoken language" were some of these irritants.

There are three canal headworks in Punjab which are supposed to be under the administration of the Bhakra Management Board. These are situated at Ropar, Harike and Ferozepur. The Sirhind Canal issues from the river Satluj at Ropar and irrigates Punjab lands almost to its entirety. Only zero point

sixty-six percent (.66%) of the water of this canal goes to Haryana. The headwork of Ferozepur, too, is almost non-controversial as it is a flood-oriented channel only.

The Harike headwork is vitally related to the irrigation system in Rajasthan and needs Central supervision only if Rajasthan suspects mala fide operation by Punjab engineers. But there is no such complaint. The Congress rulers could always incite Rajasthan. Government to lodge complaints against Punjab; but with the Janata Party ruling Rajasthan and a firm Akali-Janata coalition ruling Punjab, the

### Punjab and Rajasthan agree to status quo

question of any mala fides just does not arise. Nobody can even think, in the present atmosphere of inter-State spirit of harmony, that the Punjab Government would interfere with the flow of waters allocated to at Rajasthan and Haryana under the old agreement. And if there are any matters of detail, the three States can have a joint cadre of engineers to look after this matter.

The issue of these headworks was not heard of as long as the Congress was in power. It would lie dormant even now but the issue was thrown up by the Congress agents in the Akali Dal with the active collaboration from the discredited Congress itself.

The first to stir it up was Dr Jagjit Singh of London, whose links with the Congress are well-known. The controversy almost synchronised with the clearance of the valuable Rs. 100 crore Thien Dam project by the Centre. That clearance was a great achievement of the Akali-Janata Government and the Chief Minister, Sardar Parkash Singh Badal, got kudos from the people of the State for this. The pro-Congress elements in the Akali Dal, who saw in the ascendancy of Badal their own abysmal downfall, started a row on the issue of the headworks unfortunately, some Akali leaders also unwittingly got involved in it, thus falling a prey to the Congress conspiracy. But the sagacity on the part of Sardar Badal, former Union Minister for Irrigation and Agriculture, Sardar Surjit Singh Barnala, the Punjab Janata Party President, Shri Yagya Datta Sharma, M.P.; and the Janata Party Ministers of Punjab has scotched this dirty plot.

Every sane man was surprised over the controversy as it was nothing but a storm in the tea cup. There are many vital issues before the State Government and the people of Punjab, by and large, did not relish the futile headworks debate and refused to be drawn into it. Thus, the controversy is now subsiding with a whimper after erupting with a bang. And in the back-wash of the controversy, the mischief mongers stand exposed. Already the Chief Ministers of Punjab and Rajasthan have agreed to the status quo arrangement.



## Attacks on Hare Krishna Brahmacharis in USA

NEW YORK: Although USA is the crucible of many cultures, it is now very allergic to any new culture. Perhaps it is the reflex action of a society afraid of yet another culture perchance acting as a detonator, to splinter its hard-won homogeneity. Nothing else could explain the institution of post-World War II Committee to expose and punish "UN-American Activities." It was a modernised version of the Inquisition, which punished all serious dissent.

A few years back I was walking along a street in a suburb of Boston when some youths started yelling at me menacingly. I realised that they were objecting to my fur cap, which they obviously thought of as something specially Russian.

The same psychology explains the recent attacks on Hindu devotees of the Hare Krishna movement in some States of the US. Shri A. Ghosh writes from Houston.

### MURDEROUS BIGOTS

The attacks are being organised by murderous bigots who kidnap young brahmacharis and then remove them to places like Tucson, Arizona, where obscure State laws permit the hoodlums to lock up the devotees against their will, brutalise them for long periods, insult their Hindu Gods and Goddesses, tear up their holy books such as the Bhagavad-Gita and rub the torn pages onto their genitals etc. until such time they give up and say that they would no longer follow this religion. Such

treatment is euphemistically called 'deprogramming'. The leading 'deprogrammer' is a black man called Ted Patrick, descendant of a Negro slave who himself was kidnapped some hundreds of years ago."

"Ted Patrick recently attempted to kidnap a 23-year-old Hindu devotee from the Hare Krishna ashram at Houston. He was unsuccessful in his attempt in this instance, but his attempt was proven and the Hare Krishna authorities would like to press kidnapping charges against this man. The District Attorney of Houston, however, for some

### The tribe of Ted. Patricks

reason, is refusing to permit the Hare Krishna authorities to press the charges. Shri Jagannath Suta of Los Angeles Hare Krishna Center writes:

### HELD IN MOTEL

"Our mission is to see that Ted Patrick is locked up and never allowed to get out of jail." Ted Patrick had earlier successfully kidnapped several devotees of the Hare Krishna temple, the more renowned among them being Sri Laxminaryan, who was kidnapped some three years ago and was held in a motel room for a considerable period of time."

## Ex-students of BHU Units

VASANT PANCHAMI, the Festival of Spring, brings to our mind, among other things the hallowed memory of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, who founded the Banaras Hindu University on this day, sixty-one years ago. Appropriately enough the reigning deity of BHU is Saraswati, the Goddess of Learning, who is also associated with Vasant Panchmi.

The "Spotless Pandit", as many members of the Viceroy's Executive Council described the Mahatma, was, according to Rev. C.F. Andrews, "dearer to the vast majority of Hindu public, than even Mahatma Gandhi." And Mahakavi Tagore lauded his services in these terms: "Your clarion call has awakened many parts of the country and many devoted workers are gathering round you. May your exhortations touch the hearts of everybody and stir him to action."

The BHU reminds us also

of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, the world-renowned exponent of Hindu culture who succeeded Malaviyaji as its Vice-Chancellor in 1938. Similarly, it reminds us of Guruji Shri M.S. Golwalkar, who was at the BHU from 1924 to 1928 as student and then from 1930 to 1933 as teacher. As Sarsanghchalak after the

### To realise the ideal of Malaviyaji

passing away of Dr Hedge-war, Shri Guruji nurtured the RSS as a supreme socio-cultural and nationalist movement with a moral bias.

It is a pity that this great institution founded by that Modern Maharshi and Karmayogi has also been a victim of the recent national

crisis. A certain lack of direction has affected its position as a centre of national reconstruction.

It is time for retrospection for the former students of BHU as to in what way they can make their contribution to perpetuate the ideals of its great founder. With this end in view, a meeting of those associated with the University since its inception is proposed to be called in Delhi on Varsh Pratipada Day, April 9, 1978. We hope to have the privilege of being addressed by some of our revered leaders on the occasion.

For further information, please contact:

Dr. S.S. Chadha,  
Keshwa Kunj,  
Jhandewala,  
New Delhi.



Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya

## When Congressmen thought they were above I.P.C.

NEW DELHI: In the second volume of his autobiography, "LIVING AN ERA" to be published shortly, Shri D.P. Mishra dwells at some length on the RSS ban in 1948-49.

Mishra, as Home Minister of the then C.P. & Berar, found Nagpur and the surrounding area "in the throes of an unprecedented lawlessness," following Gandhiji's murder.

He writes: Those who indulged in these unlawful activities also included a large number of Congressmen belonging to non-Brahman communities. In fact, in Nagpur and Berar the trouble-makers were mostly Congressmen, some being even office-bearers of the various Congress committees. Among those arrested by the police there were more than a hundred Congressmen and I was immediately subjected to pressure for their release. In a meeting of prominent Congressmen of Nagpur I had to face severe criticism. When they threatened to take their complaint to Home

Minister Patel, I had to tell them to bring a directive for me from Delhi that Congressmen had been exempted from the operation of the Indian Penal Code.

Shri Mishra adds: "That Mahatma Gandhi's assassination gave a handle to unscrupulous politicians to defame

### D. P. Mishra remembers 1948

and, if possible, to pull down their rivals, is difficult to deny. The attempt that was made in Delhi to bring Patel a non-Brahman, himself into disrepute and to cause a breach between him and Nehru, is well known. But the malady had gone deeper. For instance, in my own province I came across a Special Branch report that at a conference of Nagpur and Berar Congressmen held in Amraoti, it was stated that 'the assassin of Gandhi

was a Brahman and as such no Brahman, be he a Maharashtrian, Gujarati, Marwari or from UP, could be entrusted with the responsibility of governance" and the fact that CP was being governed by Brahman Ministers "is a challenge to the purity of the Congress." Of course UP Brahmans meant R.S. Shukla and myself and Gujarati stood for our Finance Minister D.K. Mehta."

When the Government failed to lift the ban on the RSS, the Swayamsevaks, writes Mishra, "with a disciplined widespread organisation, particularly in the Hindi and Marathi-speaking regions, were determined to demonstrate that they could give as good an account of their strength against the Congress Government as the Congress had given against British authority." And in this they succeeded very well. "Within the first five days, 16,421 arrests were made, about two-thirds of them being in the provinces of Bombay, UP, CP and Berar."

## Coal washeries have not been functioning

(Continued from page 4)

It is in this context that the Ministry of Steel has been pressing for import of high grade coal though The Ministry of Energy has been opposing it on the specious plea that it would be a reflection on its own performance, apart from being a drain on the foreign exchange reserves. The Union Cabinet has seen the point that the utilisation of such reserves for import of high grade coal with low ash content is desirable for avoiding further damage to the blast plants as well as for economic use of domestic reserves of such coal which may not last for more than forty years.

In fact, it is for such genuine purposes of augmenting our limited natural resources that part of the bulging foreign exchange reserves should be used.

An analysis of the coking coal supplied to the Steel plants during the last few months shows that the charged coal ash per cent on an average was 21 to 27, as against the safe average of 17 to 19 per cent. It is a pity indeed that the very high grade coal, with ash content of only 9 to 10 per cent, was available in the country till recently, but its reserves have been almost exhausted by reckless unnecessary use in the locomotives.

It is a still greater pity that the coal washeries installed for the purpose of refining coal for supply to steel plants, have not been functioning properly. It is reported that they have been used to no more than 50% of capacity. It is such unsatisfactory performance that has compelled the Steel Ministry to demand the transfer of the washeries to its charge. The dispute has taken such an ugly turn that the PM has promised to intervene in the matter and settle it.

### PRICES UP

Meanwhile, an expert committee is going into the cost structure of the CIL, with particular reference to the question of coal prices. For the CIL complains of losses due to uneconomic price of coal. Coal has been raised by a total of prices 50% since nationalisation, in the wake of mounting losses due to higher wage bills after regularisation of lakhs of *ad hoc* workers in the nationalised coal mines. While the Energy Minister has scotched rumours about imminent rise in coal prices, import of high-grade coal at Rs 50 crore per million tonnes may justify the case for Rs 50 per tonne increase in supplies of the CIL coal to steel plants, at least for equalisation of prices in terms of ash content percentage. For, the landed cost of imported coal will be seven to eight times that of the Indian coal!

While the cost enquiry committee is going into the CIL's case for upward revision of the present 'uneconomic' coal prices in view of mounting losses, it is generally felt that the CIL has to be pulled up for better showing in terms of production which may help it to set off considerable losses. Moreover, loss in production is telling on the general industrial efficiency and the performance of thermal plant.



# China's 45 million 'Backward classes'

A FEW YEARS BACK a Chinese journalist from Taiwan told me that the communists had liquidated five million people on the mainland. I said that according to a Radio Peking report, briefly published in the Indian Press in the early fifties, they had liquidated 3 million "reactionaries". My Chinese friend thereupon remarked: "A regime which can admittedly kill 3 million will have no compunction in killing 5 million."

He was right. What to talk of 3 million, even three lakhs murdered would constitute a genocide. And yet nobody talks of it! I have a hunch that the West highlights suppression of human rights in Russia but not in China, because it sees a serious rival in the former but not in the latter.

However, from the world view of things, human rights are as relevant to the Chinese as to the Russians. Sad to say, Chinese officials still stick to Mao Tse-tung's formula that 5 per cent of the nation are "reactionaries" and that as such, they are not entitled even to those rights which are supposed to be enjoyed by the rest of the people. In a nation of 900 million, 5 per cent would account for 45 million people. One of the few Western journalists who dared confront a Chinese official with a question about the 5 per cent, William Safire of *The New York Times*, at least managed to extract an embarrassed acknowledgement that perhaps the figures might be somewhat less than the percentages suggest.

According to Ross Munro of *Toronto Globe and Mail*, about 30 million people are still classed as "rich peasants" because they had owned a few acres of land and had a few hired laborers before the communists came to power. The "rich peasants" are second-class citizens, receiving between 10 and 20 per cent less pay than others doing the same work. The sins of the fathers are visited on the children, whose entry to schools is restricted. Their families are not entitled to the free medical care, such as it is, available to other Chinese. Several million "reactionaries" are still confined in "reform" prisons.

TEN YEARS AFTER the Russians overthrew Dubcek of Czechoslovakia, that country is yet to recover from those wounds. As many as four lakh persons, believed to be supporters of Dubcek, were demoted and dishonoured. Most of them stay demoted and dishonoured.

Many of these highly educated men are still stoking coal in ovens. There are scientists working as night watchmen; departmental heads working as clerks in their own establishments. There are Ph.Ds. driving cars. Their places everywhere have been taken over by less competent but more pliable

men. The result is utter mediocrity all-round.

For these mediocres, there are the official perquisites of chauffeured cars, official apartments, summer and winter cottages, trips to the resorts of the Black Sea and even the ski country of West Germany and Austria and, of course, the salaries and bonuses that may be 10, even 20, times those of menial workers.

- Czechoslovakia's four lakh political Untouchables
- Canadian Fear of Balkanisation
- Petrobillions in dilemma

Writes David A. Andelman in the *New York Times*: "It is difficult to overestimate the hatred and contempt with which such officials and most party members are held by the 90 per cent of the population who are not members of the Communist party."

"Long-time of friends have split with each other over the

question as some realize the advantages to be gained from party membership and plunge into the establishment structure. Even within families, a party member is treated with a measure of contempt or pity."

FOR MORE THAN a decade, and until very recently, Canada had tended to drift away from the USA. That American companies were having an increasing share of Canada's resources

other nice things. The Canadians were delighted.

Credit for this dramatic change in relations goes to the French-speaking Canadian province of Quebec. Last year secessionist Levesque was elected Premier of Quebec. And recently Levesque called for a referendum next year to decide whether Quebec continue to be part of Canada—or become a separate and sovereign State.

and markets—from power to newspapers to chocolates—had irked Canada. This situation was freely described as "foreign domination". But no more.

The other day US Vice-President Mondale described Trudeau, Canadian Premier, as "a priceless asset to the industrialised world", "a remarkable Prime Minister" and many

The prospect of Quebec seceding, has frightened Canadians with prospects of "Balkanisation". There has, therefore, been a quiet exodus of Canadian money and small companies to the adjoining areas of USA.

Last month a big storm broke over the land where Sun Life Assurance Co., one of the

## The International Scene

by  
KRM

biggest life insurance companies of the world, decided to move its headquarters from French-speaking Montreal to English-speaking Toronto.

Levesque promptly accused big business of a plot to "destabilise" the economy of Quebec. Under advice from the Federal Government, Sun Assurance put off its decision. But uneasiness persists.

The English-speaking Canadians have shed their old fears of USA and come out for "continentalism", uniting the interests of USA and Canada.

EVER SINCE the petrodollars started pouring into the West, UK and USA have been particularly worrying about its consequences. The Sheikhs have bought hotels and banks and whole islands in the USA. The other day they bought three luxury hotels in Paris.

Reported William Tuohy of the *Los Angeles Times*: "Many Britons are having difficulty adjusting to the 'Arabization' of London, which has turned the British capital into a kind of Baghdad on the Thames."

"Arab sheikhs have purchased castles and hotels and mansions in posh residential districts. They have taken over an office building in the center of the financial district and built a mosque in the manicured precincts of Regent's Park."

"London's fanciest nightspot, 'Arabel's,' has been rechristened 'Arabel's' by the cognoscenti because of the prevalence of freespending customers from the Middle East."

And then there are countless billions in Western banks—on a fixed 5% interest.

This situation has been worrying the Western countries. What happens if all these tons of money are suddenly withdrawn? Will the drain drag down the local currency? Will it knock the bottom off a country's stock exchange?

Well, not quite. These western countries are so rich that even Arab billions are only a drop in a bath-tub. Actually these funds are only fertilising the local economy. And there is not much danger of all the Sheikhs—whether of Arabia or Libya or Iraq or Kuwait or Iran—acting in concert. If, as and when the impossible does threaten to materialise, Governments can always invoke their sovereign powers to freeze, or even seize, "foreign assets".

Actually the oil Sheikhs are quite in a fix: Western currencies are depreciating more than the interest received on Arab deposits in those currencies. So their cash assets are depreciating all the time!

## How Indian monkeys helped American nuclear programme

A. Ghosh, Houston, USA

Prime Minister Morarji bhai has done very well to ban the export of monkeys.

Most of our rhesus monkeys were being sent to USA where they were thoroughly misused for nuclear experiments and other "scientific" cruelties. Now USA propose to import the same from Bangladesh.

Perhaps Dr. Rajendra Prasad was after all right in wanting the protection of monkeys to be inscribed in the Constitution—along with that of the cow. Flora and fauna are a part of nature in its balance. Any indiscriminate destruction of nature can only disturb this balance—and hurt all nature, including man.

Back in 1955, Indo-US agreement on the export of monkeys specified that for each shipment, the Surgeon General of the US Public Health Service must sign a statement declaring: I hereby certify that the monkeys now being purchased will be used only for medical research or the production of anti-poliomyelitis vaccine . . . and that regular inspections shall be made to assure humane treatment of these monkeys."

The agreement also declared that rhesus monkeys "will not be used in atomic blast experiments or for space research." It has now been discovered that contrary to these agreements, US armed forces have used 1379 mon-

keys supplied from India in tests designed to simulate the effects of the neutron bomb, which kills not by blast or burning but by radiation.

In order to determine monkeys' work capacity when healthy, they were conditioned by means of electric shocks to run on treadmill for six hours. Then they were subjected to huge doses of radiation—from two to ten times what would ordinarily be fatal for most human beings—then put back on the treadmill to see how their capacities had been impaired and how long they survived

### Morarji Stops criminal export

They lasted from seven hours to almost six days. In the meantime they suffered the predictable effects of excessive radiations exposure: vomiting, diarrhoea, loss of hair.

Even the laboratory test did not adhere to the specifications of the agreement. Here are some of the experiments performed in the various laboratories.

—Ten monkeys were immersed in water at 90 degree C (194 degree F) for 15 seconds for an examination of burns;

—Ten monkeys were shot through the head for a study of gun shot wounds

—Monkeys were operated on without anesthesia so doctors could study shock.

It is stated that India exported some 20,000 monkeys last year, of which US imported some 12,000. After these disclosures, India has stopped export of all monkey which has created some kind of panic in this country as all experiments in connection with neutron bomb development might be delayed.

The American Press is full of sob stories for the Indian monkey exporters and how their businesses will be ruined if Morarji Desai stops the monkey export. With the 1300 monkeys that the US has in hand, talks are going on to start breeding centers all over the US so that the little countries like India cannot dictate to big countries like the US. The first question that comes to mind is: Wasn't there any provision in the agreement that no breeding should be permitted be the receiving country from Indian monkeys without permission from the donor country? It seems that as far as enriched uranium goes, similar conditions are there in the contract.

The GOI may not be willing to make atomic weapons even for India's defence, but so far it has been a good friend of the US nuclear armament development effort by helping considerably in the gathering of knowledge of neutron bomb's effects.



# I. S. Johar Big Joke—'Nasbandi'

**FAMILY PLANNING** in India has been described as an issue "too hot to handle." And as the forced sterilisation drive during the Emergency has shown, it requires the most cautious strategy on the part of the State; hasty action may boomerang. To help solve population problem here, techniques appropriate to the social and moral milieu, and proper persuaders to win the confidence of the masses, are required.

Inder Sain Johar's latest film *Nasbandi* seeks to influence the masses towards that goal, apart from highlighting the damage done to the cause during the Emergency. Mostly farcical on the slap-stick style that would appeal to the less educated, it however, does contain flashes of wit and telling satire on the excesses of the Emergency.

## FILMS: A BIG JOKE

Veteran of more than fifty films—including 5 foreign films—Johar recently went to London for acting in his part of a ship's captain in an English film *'Death on the Nile'*, based on Agatha Christie's novel of that name. From what he told reporters during 'takes' in London, it is clear that he takes film-making as a big joke.

For example, he said that acting ability is totally unnecessary in Indian films and that there were only two types of Indian films—bad and very bad. And he added with touching honesty, "Mine are very bad."

When asked what he thought of Satyajit Ray's films, Johar said: "They are not Indian films. They are Bengali films." Explaining this paradoxical statement, Johar added: "Bengal is the only State where there is some semblance of a literature which every child has read."

Commenting on his venture *Nasbandi*, Johar said that he deliberately kept it at the popular level without getting into "the intricacies of politics."

The film is in fact down to earth. It starts with a phone call to a caucus leader, Rao Sahib Banwari Lal, in a small town. The man at the other end promises to give him everything—licences, plots of land and what not—if only he arranges sterilisation of fifty

cases daily. The words 'Jai Maruti' are constantly on the tongue of the Rao Sahib.

To fulfil the target, private men in police uniform are sent all over the town to drag 'cases' to FP camps. They have a licence to use the by now well-known coercive methods, including kidnapping of unwary passersby, demolitions and use of MISA. When all eligible persons have been sterilised, a hunt for bachelors and oldsters starts.

## A LA DRAUPADI

Johar and Rajendranath form a funny two-some who keep failing in the law examination for their inability to master the intricacies of the 42nd Amendment. Unable to pay the rent of their room, one day they embark on a hunt for FP cases to make up their want. They capture two equally funny men who are actually policemen, tired of hunting for cases. Both the pairs welcome each other. Together they march to the FP camp, each thinking that it has had a good catch. When the funny bachelors realise the predicament at the camp, they manage to escape by falling in love with the nurses, promising to marry them "next Sunday."

## JANATA JANARDAN PARTY

But when the time fixed for the marriage comes and the nurses wait for them at the church, the two bachelors are kidnapped to the FP camp again. This time they escape through divine intervention, *a la* Draupadi, as the underwears removed from their body never come to an end. But they are not so lucky the third time, and did get sterilised in the end. To drive home the situation prevailing during the Emergency, a whole funeral party is vasectomised.

The Health Ministry was very particular that the film should not denigrate family planning as such, even while highlighting the atrocities on that account. Hence the moral of the film: It is only forcible sterilisation that is harmful—and that the FP operation is reversible.

The moral is driven home through the romantic part of the film. Five young men form a 'Janata Janardan' party which keeps sending threaten-

ing phone calls to the Rao Sahib and indulges in adventurous action and pranks to frustrate him. The leader of the party Amitav Bachhan manages to kidnap and fall in love with Ambika, the daughter of the Rao Sahib. The heroine's role is played by Johar's own daughter Ambika Johar. They marry secretly, but the hero is vasectomised by 'case-hunters' and he goes dumb because of mental shock. The operation is later reversed by a sympathetic doctor, and he regains speech when he hears that his wife is expecting.

Explaining the correct approach to FP, Johar says through the hero: "Sterilisation is important for the country, but the way it was done was wrong. It should begin with leaders of public, MPs etc. getting themselves operated in public. Then the community would understand." He adds in his press interviews: "Why couldn't Rajiv, who had two children, get it done? Sanjay could have got it done—and adopted two children."

In the film, when the Emergency is over, the four members of the caucus are caught one by one by the Janata Janardan and forcibly sterilised after being shown films of their atrocities. The Rao Sahib is blown to pieces when, after a long race on the Thames, London, in a bid to escape from the hero, his motor boat goes up in smoke. The whole thing is rounded up by a court scene in which the constantly failing law students appear in their first law case as they have got a degree in lieu of the FP operation.

One of the satirical punches in the film is the direction of the Rao Sahib to his men to give the stock reply of "Orders from above" when they are called to account for their excesses.

However, by far the most attractive part of the film is its five songs, each one of which is likely to be popular and highlights the grim situation during the Emergency. The credit goes to Kalyanji Anandji and song writers Rajendra Krishan and Induvar for it. The opening song, *Gandhi tere desh main yeh kaisa atyachar, ik bharat main ban gaye Jallian-wale bagh Bazar* (What terrible atrocities in your country, Gandhiji! Now there are thousands of Jallianwala tragedies enacted here). It is accompanied by telling visuals of the Emergency reign of terror. Then there is the 'prophetic' song sung by satyagrahis being marched to the police station: *Damadam mast kalandar, aaj hai koi bahir, woh hoga kal ko andar* (Hear the cry of the soothsayer in ecstasy: those who are outside jail will one day be behind the bars).

On the whole the film falls into Johar's own description of his own films as "very bad", in spite of his gimmick of selecting five youngmen on motorcycles, parodying the names and mannerisms of well known stars: Amitav Bachhan, Kanoy Kumar, Rakesh Khanna, Sevanand and Shahi Kapur. They have striking resemblance with the respective matinee idols. But their mannerisms begin to jar pretty soon, as they have little acting talent.

There are many moments when the film appears to be inconsistent and illogical—but the explanation lies in the following words of Johar: "I often have half a dozen of my assistants directing different parts of the same film." It is easily worse than any of his earlier political films like *Goa* and *Joi Bangladesh*. But it may be remembered longer because of its sharp wit and ingenuity in highlighting a contemporary situation in a laughable manner. By contrast, *Kissa Kursi Ka* is sombre; it goes over the head of the common man.

## CASTRATING THE CAUCUS

Expert in making film 'quickies', Johar has frankly no qualms in fictionalising even known facts of history. But he has a cogent answer for such aberrations. As he says in a press interview: "When I made *Johar and Mehmood in Goa*, the censors said, Goa was not liberated like this. When I made a film on Bangladesh, some critics in Delhi said, this is not how Mukti Bahini fought. But I say, why do you have this notion that all freedom fights are fought in the manner of a satyagraha? History, as it has been written and taught, is fake and one-sided. It tells us all about the great deeds of Akbar... but it never tells us all about the one thousand concubines that he had—or how he managed such a large harem."

Last of all, to mention one of the latest pranks of Johar, he has written letters to many newspapers and magazines asking them not to publish the review of his *Nasbandi*!

V.P. Bhatia

## Deendayal Puram : Model Village in Andhra

**VIJAYAWDA :** The Cyclone Relief Committee of the RSS has started reconstruction of village Mulapalem in Divi Seema, which had been washed away by the tidal wave in November last.

The *de novo* construction of the village has been taken up with the help of the Deendayal Research Institute, New Delhi. The village has been renamed as Deendayal Puram, where 110 pucca houses, in addition to community hall, a school building and a hospital will be constructed. The project has been taken up as part of an all-India Integrated Rural Development Scheme for developing villages and village life from all angles.

The *bhoomipujan* for the construction activity was performed on January 28 by Sri M. V. Krishna Rao, State Minister of Education and Rehabilitation, who lauded the relief work being done by the RSS. He said that it was good that the village was being renamed after Deendayal Upadhyaya, the great thinker. Shri Rao appealed to RSS workers to educate the people of the village to help them become good citizens.

Nanaji Deshmukh, All India General Secretary of the Janata Party and Secretary of the Deendayal Research Insti-

tute, paid a visit to the village on February 9. He was accompanied by Shri S. Somaiah, Organising Secretary of State RSS. Nanaji laid the foundation of the Tidal Wave Memorial erected in the memory of thousands of people who died in the cyclone. He also installed the new plaque of the village. A medical van will also be provided by the Deendayal Research Institute for medical care of the villagers of the area.

## RSS to rebuild four villages in Tamilnad

In his brief speech on the occasion Nanaji revealed that Dr. Hedgewar, founder of the RSS, originally hailed from Andhra Pradesh. He said that Deendayal Puram would be a model village in the country as it would have all modern amenities. The villagers, he disclosed, would be given pucca cement houses, modern nets for fishing and modern boats for deep sea fishing. There shall be a training centre for fishermen.

The village would also be a medical centre for 50 villages. A 15-bed hospital will serve the people of these villages.

**MADRAS :** The RSS Cyclone and Flood Relief Committee of Tamil Nadu has also selected four villages—Tayanur, Ariyavur, Karamandapam and Melaguparai—in Trichy area for reconstruction of 170 new houses and repair of 130 partially damaged houses. A community hall will also be constructed in each of the four villages.

At Rajagopalapuram in the Vedasandur area in Madurai district, 84 houses have been constructed. On 22-1-1978 these houses were formally handed over to the villagers at a public function. Sri R. Gopalan, Joint-Provincial Organiser of Tamil Nadu Unit of RSS, handed over the houses to villagers by presenting a hurricane lamp to each villager.

Last month, Sri V. Ranga-swamy Thevar, the President, RSS Cyclone and Flood Relief Committee, Tamil Nadu, along with all the RSS Divisional Organisers of the State, visited all the villages in Trichy and Madurai Divisions where rehabilitation work has been taken up by the committee.

While speaking to the villagers at various places Sri Ranga-swamy Thevar said: "We are not working here to seek support for any political party and we are also do not expect anything from you. We are just doing our duty. Our only request to you is to cooperate in the rehabilitation work by offering your physical labour."

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# INDIA

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# BHARAT

BY: SATIRICUS

A LOWER DIVISION CLERK in the Ministry of External Affairs was carefully going through the long list of foreign dignitaries who have been to India that is Bharat this winter. "H'mmm....." he mused to himself, as his eyes ran down the names. "Let me see if anybody has missed the tirip—anybody who had invited an invitation for himself and could not be accommodated so far.... Well, the President of the USA, the Shah of Iran, the President of Ireland, the Prime Minister of United Kingdom, the Vice-President of Ruritania, the minister of this and that of Erch Won...."

Suddenly the clerk stopped and stared, "Good God!" he exclaimed. "We have completely forgotten one particular head of state who has been entreating us for a long time for an invitation—Bhagavan Vishnu, President of Vaikunth. The poor god must have lost all hope of our remembering him." Forthwith the LDC made a marginal noting on the file and started it on its long journey to the top. The result was one more VIP landing at the Palam airport of Delhi—that of the Pushpak Viman.

Slightly befuddled by the intricacies of protocol, the Lord of the High Heavens went through the ritual of welcome and dutifully listened to the welcome address. Not being a seasoned politician, he was not quite sure of what was meant by "lasting bonds of friendship between India and Heaven". In fact he failed to see anything of heaven on earth in modern India. He also wondered why friends and friendly countries have to make speeches to each other. "Is not a friend in need a friend indeed?" he asked his press secretary, N. Muni, in a whisper. "Not any more," the secretary whispered back; "Now-a-days in this world in general, and in this land in particular, you must talk and talk and talk. What you do is irrelevant." "Oh, I see", Bhagavan Vishnu replied. In fact he did not see at all.

Anyway after Vishnu Bhagavan was driven in proper security to the Rashtrapati Bhawan he was handed over a carbon copy of his programme. There was of course a visit to Rajghat and also, of course, a visit to the cottage industries emporium. But strangely enough God was more interested in meeting the common man, the poor man. "I am called Daridra Narayan and I must meet my Daridra devotees," he insisted. "Well," the protocol people reluctantly said, "We will see if we can take you to a nearby village. That should satisfy you." Poor God had to give in. He visited a specially chosen village where the panchayat welcomed him with flowers and Arati and a specially composed song of praise (a la "mein to Arati utaroo" re, President Carter ki)—and he returned without actually talking to a single devotee.

Then there were the banquets, the toasts—and still more speeches. Again Bhagavan Vishnu was puzzled. He

said to himself—and in an untaped aside to Press Secretary Narad Muni: "There are two things you do with the mouth—speak and eat. But one thing

So far so good. But next came a programme that Lord Vishnu dreaded—and his press secretary dreaded still more. It was the inevitable press con-

Bernard Shaw, God believed that telling the truth was the funniest thing on earth. So both Vishnu Bhagavan and his aide were in a state of appre-

hension as the visitor from high heavens faced pressmen, the disciples of the devil. "My God," a reporter began, "how do you feel on visiting this sacred land of yours after a lapse of thousands of years?" "Oh, I'm delight'pə" Vishnu declared enthusiastically. "There has been so much progress since those backward days when I used to take Avatara here. For instance in those days rivers of milk and honey used to flow here, but now, I am told, your province of Punjab had till recently been advertised as the land of the sixth river—the river of alcohol. Then I am told, there has been a total revolution, so I'm sure

(Continued on Page 14)

... He believed with Bernard Show that telling the truth was the funniest thing on earth

at a time. If you sit down for dinner you use your mouth for eating. Then why do you have to divert it to speech-making?" But then, protocol is protocol, and not even God can escape it.

ference. Narad Muni knew that the Almighty was very poor at giving diplomatic answers that left the question unanswered—or in saying nothing in so many words. And, what was worse, like

hension as the visitor from high heavens faced pressmen, the disciples of the devil.

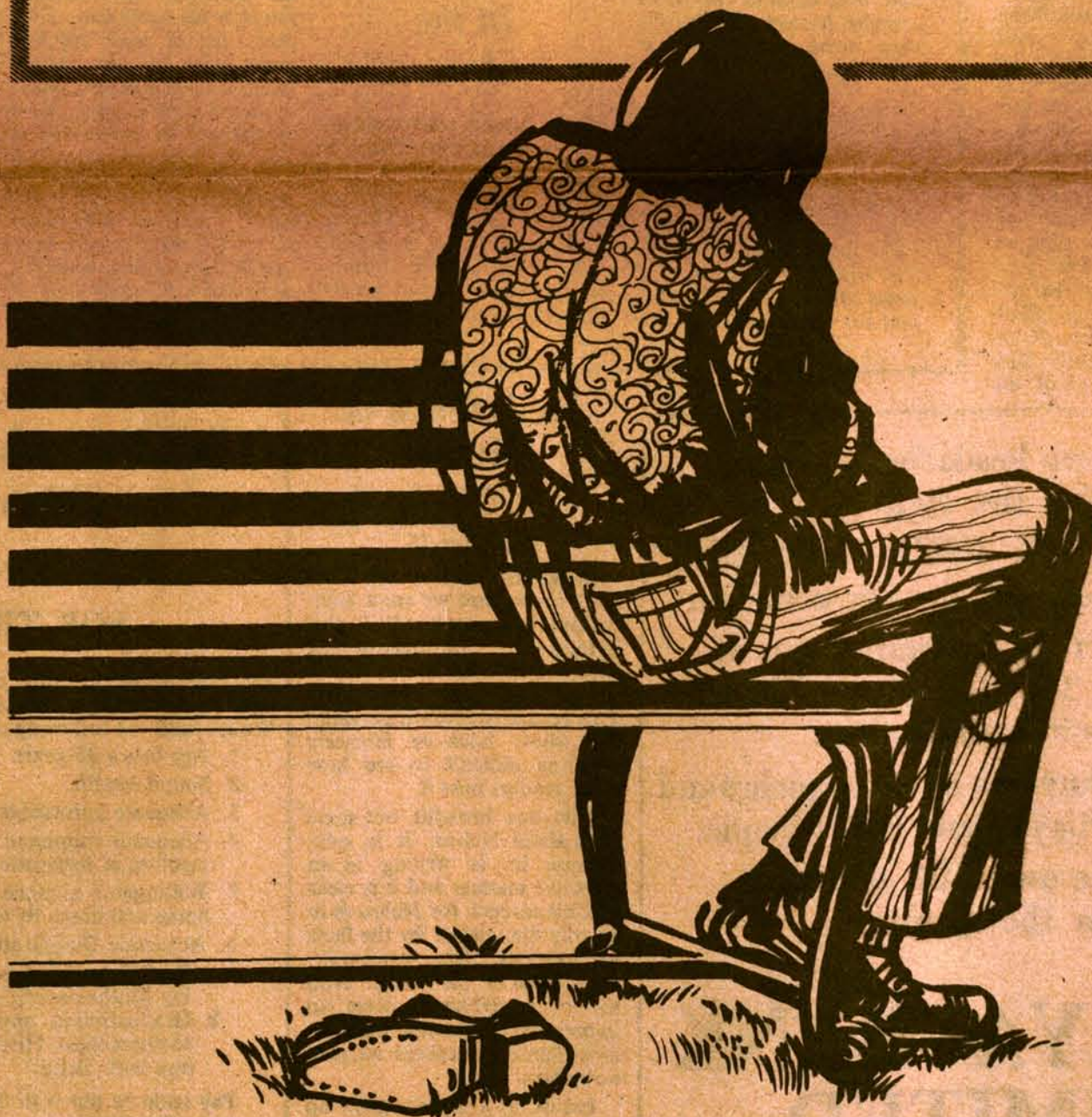
"My God," a reporter began, "how do you feel on visiting this sacred land of

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## OUR READERS WRITE...

### Why not abolish Salt Tax for good?

... R.L. Khosla,  
464, Hukam Singh Road,  
Amritsar.

The levy of duty on salt manufactured in, or imported into, India was discontinued for the first time by the Finance Act, 1947. And since then the suspension of Salt Duty charge has been the regular feature of the annual Finance Acts for the subsequent years, more or less a sort of an annual ritual.

The then Finance Minister, while presenting the Central Budget for the year 1947-48, said in his speech: "In regard to the Salt Tax, the objections are well-known, the most valid being that it is laid upon a prime necessity of life and that it is regressive, the poor man paying as much as the rich man and perhaps, if he is a manual worker, even more. After careful consideration it has been decided that the tax should now be withdrawn."

The Janata Party Government aims at rural uplift and removal of poverty by following Gandhian philosophy and approach. Will it not be in the fitness of things to suggest that, instead of exemption from Salt Duty being granted by the Finance Act every year, the laws relating to Salt Duty are suitably amended so as to provide for Salt Duty relief on permanent basis? It would be a fine tribute to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi who led the famous Dandi March (Salt Satyagrah) to defy the obnoxious Salt Laws and Duty, and also recognition in law of an

important historical national event in the freedom struggle.

### 'Om' derived from Iranian?

... Mrs. S.N. Nanporia,  
Jupiter Apts.,  
Off Altamont Road,  
Bombay-28.

A Parsi gentleman, Behram Pithavala, wrote a booklet in

1971 tracing the Iranian basis of the Devnagiri Sanskrit Alphabet. He even goes so far as to state "AUM" is taken from the first letters of the two Ahua Magda! To a layman this sounds (especially the latter) rather far-fetched but the author states that he is indebted and "has profound gratitude" to N.A. Palkhivala "without whose active help and generous assistance this work would not have seen the light of the day." This need to be investigated, surely. Would our scholars oblige?

### Microbes on the Mars?

In the frozen deserts of South Pole, no life was supposed to exist. Since it is too cold, the snow doesn't melt. There is, therefore, no evaporation—and no precipitation. Weather is, therefore, as dry as in the Sahara. But recent discoveries by Dr. and Mr. Friedmann of Florida University, USA, show that three kinds of microbes—algae, bacteria and fungi—very much exist in the Antarctic.

"We have been looking for life forms in the world's deserts for 15 years and this is the first time we have found life in a cold desert," said Dr. Imre Friedmann. "The surprising thing is that the life we find in the Antarctic is less primitive, and has more variety, than

life found in the hot deserts."

It is the driest and coldest climate in which life has been found on earth. The discovery suggests that the same kind of life may exist inside the rocks of a planet like

### ... Same as in the Antarctic

Mars, where the climate closely resembles that of Antarctica.

"If Martian life forms exist only in the interior of Martian rocks, as is principally the case in the Antarctic, that could serve an explanation for the lack of

evidence of life on Mars," said Dr. Richard Young, chief of Planetary Biology for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. "The two Viking space-craft that landed on Mars could not break open rocks and analyze their interiors."

Dr. Friedmann said that he believes the microbes found in the rocks have been there for at least 200,000 years, since the dry valleys reached their present climate conditions. "We think their mechanism for adaptation is that the organisms switch their metabolic activity on and off. When the sun shines and it's not so cold under the rocks, they switch their metabolism on and, when it's dark and cold, they turn it off."

### India and the U.S.A. are literally poles apart

... A. C. R. Menezes, 2nd Floor, David House,  
J. I. de Loyola Road, Margao—Goa.

I read with interest the article by Maharaj K. Chopra on relations between India and the U.S. in your issue (January 26). While I do appreciate and respect his erudition on the subject, it would appear that one need not look too deeply for the cause of strained relations.

India and the U.S.A. are nations which are, so to say, geographically poles apart. When it is noon in India, it is midnight in the U.S. Under the circumstances, the U.S. press (The New York Times, Washington Post, The Chicago Tribune etc) and the television giants like C.B.S., N.B.C., and

A.B.C. hardly devote any space and time for anything that occurs in India.

The happenings in India are of least importance to the American public and so let it be vice versa.

To force our friendship by harping on common ideals like democracy, free press, independent judiciary, *ad nauseum*, would not be doing justice to our geo-political interests.

### Jammu & Kashmir Bank

... Ramesh Gupta,  
B-XIX, 599/3,  
Civil Lines, Ludhiana.

Thousands of refugees came to India in 1947, leaving every thing behind in the area in Kashmir occupied by Pakistan in 1947. At the time the Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd. was having their branches in that part of the State and the bank also acted as a treasury to the State Government. Thousands of accounts were kept with the above Bank at Mirpur and other places.

The Bank whose head office is at Srinagar has refused payment of deposits left with their branches in the Pakistan-occupied area on the plea that the refugees have no documentary proof and the bank has no records as those had been looted in 1947.

The Government of India should take up the question with the Pakistan Government for getting the records of the Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd. from Pakistan to enable thousands of refugees from Pakistan-occupied area of the State to get their money deposited in the bank.

### In defence of Mathai

... Dr. K. Vaidyanathan,  
C 2-29, East 2nd Lane,  
Bangalore-16.

Criticism of Shri Mathai's book shows that we are a highly immature people. It is also ill-founded. Throughout the book Shri Mathai reveals a profound admiration for Nehru. This regard for Nehru pervades the whole book so intensely that it is difficult to see how some readers miss it.

If he has brought out some facts about Nehru, it is only because he is writing in an objective manner and it is clear that his respect for Nehru is in no way diminished by the facts he narrates. He, obviously, takes them in his stride. And his book definitely gives an impression of greater truthfulness than many others we read nowadays.

Let us, as a nation, grow up and learn to accept facts and face realities. After all, the book does not alter our picture of Nehru drastically, as many people had a general idea of the things which only got confirmed by the book—though the specific instances recorded are, of course, new to them.

And finally our regard for Nehru—his great qualities as a human being—is not detracted by the book. Nor is it the author's intention to do so.

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# 'Shotgun' Sinha makes the grade in 'Vishwanath'

Writer-director Subhash Ghai has made it again to the box-office in 'Vishwanath' with 'Shotgun' Sinha as the hero. This comes close on the heels of the success of their earlier film, *Kalicharan*. This is a real shot in the arm of both who had been groping their way to the top in India's Hollywood.

It may be recalled that the film under review, *Shatrughan*, had launched a raging publicity campaign for himself even before he passed out of the Film Institute, Poona. Like Bernard Shaw, he believed in acting his own tumpeteer, and tried to project himself as an up-and-coming He-man and Casanova of the Film Industry. He seemed to revel in strutting about as a real incarnation of D.H. Lawrence's philosophy of animalism. However, fact proved stranger than fiction and after a series of near-flops, he nearly came to be stylised as a villain. It became difficult for him to live down the initial start in the role of a Naxalite in *Mere Apne*.

But it goes to the credit of the man that he kept up the struggle to reach the top in spite of flops. In the last one year he has appeared in a number of rather unorthodox and lovable roles in films like *Khan Dost*, *Kotwal Saheb*, *Aadme Sadak Ka* and *Kalicharan*. And to cap it all comes *Vishwanath*, which depicts bitter struggle between a conscientious public prosecutor named Vishwanath and a ferocious tycoon named GNK who fails to get his son released from a murder-cum-rape charge because of the honesty and dogged persistence of Vishwanath who spurns all attempts to buy him up and threaten his life. For Vishwanath is the hero of the poor because of his heroic court battles against the corrupt rich.

If may also be mentioned here that the writer director of the film Subhash Ghai started as an actor but failed to make any mark. Then he switched to script-writing and made some mark in this line. However, no director was prepared to accept the script of *Kalicharan*, and this goaded him to become his own director. In this he has achieved his first signal success. Now he has kept it up with the same 'Shatru' as hero.

The film opens with a rape scene in which the son of the tycoon GNK and his gangman Khoka, rape one of their female employees, who gets murdered in an attempt to save herself. This is followed by crowded court scenes reminiscent of the Nanavati case. The poor of the town flock to see Vishwanath score another victory over the villainous rich. The tycoon, played with great gusto by Prem Nath, fails to save his son from getting life term. But he succeeds in getting Vishwanath involved in a fake case of bribery and the latter is sent to jail for six months.

After his release, Vishwanath finds his mother murdered and

his lame sister kidnapped by the tycoon's gangs. He himself is beaten to pulp when he walks into the rich man's den rather foolishly to settle scores with him. Such experiences compel Vishwanath to carry on his battle for revenge by other means, that is the very means employed by the tycoon. So he employs his own gang and amasses wealth by intercepting the smuggling activities of the tycoon. This indeed is the 'moral death' of Vishwanath and GNK gloats over it.

In this bitter struggle by evil methods, Vishwanath is helped by another memorable character

of the Indian scene in Golu Gawah (Golu the witness) who was impressed by Vishwanath's fight for the poor although he himself made a living by false evidence in courts. Such ready-made Gawahs (witnesses) are a familiar feature of our courts. But the a Gawah reveals the other side of his nature by joining hands with Vishwanath. The role is played by the veteran Pran who becomes almost a second hero of the film.

Yet another character who helps Vishwanath in his bitter struggle is a cabaret dancer who turns his beloved and reveals the bright side of her

nature. This role is played by Reena Roy who actually started her career as a cabaret dancer. She appears in a number of fancy costumes. With such a band to help him, Vishwanath does succeed in the end to smash the tycoon's criminal gang. In the process, the film passes through quite a number of action scenes shooting sprees and fist-fights on vast, extravagant sets.

The film makes the mark because it is finely tailored to the talents of the hero who cannot act romantic scenes well but excels in physical action. It is also tailored to the current box-

office trend of presenting the hero as the good as well as the bad guy. This may be considered a welcome departure from the earlier melodramas of black and white characterisation.

However, the film fails on the moral plane. The good guy has to suffer heavily at the hands of the social sharks and has to take to evil means for a while. But the pretence of his goodness is kept up till the end. Golu Gawah and the anti-heroine Soni also come nearer to the realistic plane of the magic shadow show of life.

## INDRAPRASTHA Calling

SARSWATI PARIKH, SURAT: "English children are weak in English", says a newspaper report.

—Why not export our Anglophiles to teach then some?

\* \* \*

India is exporting sweepers to Abi.

—Soon the sweepers will be sweeping back gold-dust to India.

\* \* \*

K. HANUMANTHA RAO, HYDERABAD: Why do people care so much about their neighbours' reaction?

—They look upon neighbours as their looking glass.

\* \* \*

Are our relations with Bangladesh based on emotional rapport?

—In foreign relations there is a demotion of emotion.

\* \* \*

LAKHMIR SINGH, DELHI: Why does the lady prefer to face prosecution before a lower court rather than defend herself before the Shah Commission?

—To enact a crazy side-show to overshadow the Commission's proceedings.

\* \* \*

Is not the Janata over-playing its philosophy of ruralism?

—Underplaying it by Congress brought the economy to the present pass.

\* \* \*

Y.H. KULKARNI, INDORE: Long back late Dr. N.B. Khare had said in the Lok Sabha that Congress was the only limited company in India with unlimited profits.

—Unlimited monetary profits have turned into unlimited political losses now.

\* \* \*

The former PM says the Emergency is not likely to reappear for a thousand years.

—This is an admission that Mrs. Emergency has no chance of coming to power for a thousand years.

\* \* \*

S.C. BHARDWAJ, NEW DELHI: A newspaper report says no two signatures of Sanjay Gandhi are the same on Maruti documents in official files.

—He is an 'Artful Dodger.'

D.R. RAO, HYDERABAD: The former PM has described her symbol 'Hand' as denoting 'assurance and ability.'

—Pure 'high-handedness'.

K. RAMDAS, CALCUTTA: Why this constant anti-RSS refrain by the leftists of various hues?

—Too keep their flocks brain-washed

\* \* \*

WHY IS SHEIKH ABDUL-LAH busy persuading some State Governments to demand more powers from the Centre?

—To extend his Sultanate beyond Kashmir.

\* \* \*

RAJA BINNANI, CALCUTTA: The former PM has blamed the former CM of West Bengal, S.S. Ray, for advising her to declare the Emergency.

—Whom will she blame for accepting the advice.

\* \* \*

K. LAKSHMA REDDY, ZAHIRABAD: During her tenure in office, the former PM used to argue that the Governments in the States should be in tune with that at the Centre. What is her opinion now?

—She is too busy eating up her words now to answer that one.

\* \* \*

What is the precise difference between CPI (M) and CPI?

—That between Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde—two faces of the same coin.

B. RAMACHANDRA RAO, VIJAYAWADA: Why is a

section of the Press publishing misleading news about the Janata by misusing the new won freedom?

—To make up for the guilty silence of the Emergency.

P.R.K. MENON, NEW DELHI: What do you think of Shri Siddharth Shankar Ray and Shri D.K. Borooah saying that they were treated like puppets during the Emergency?

—Willing puppets.

\* \* \*

K. LAKSHMA REDDY, ZAHIRABAD (A.P.): Will the mass exodus of Congressmen into the Janata improve the party's prospects in the coming Assembly elections? —It will cause only indigestion of the Janata.

### J B P NEWS

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## If Britain could divide India why can't we reunite it?

HYDERABAD: The fourth annual Andhra State conference of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, attended by nearly 2,000 delegates, including 100 women delegates here test week, reiterated its demand for reduction of voting age to 18 to enable students to have a say in the decision-making process of the country.

It also urged the State Government to construct an ayurvedic college on the land allotted for the purpose by Osmania University.

Shri Arif Beg, Union Minister of State for Commerce, who addressed the conference, said: "Why can't I dream of a reunion of the three countries—Pakistan, India and Bangladesh—as one nation when the British could so successfully divide us into three."

He exhorted the students to imbibe good character and emulate the example of Lakshmana.

Prof. Bal Apte, All-India President of the Parishad, in his address said: University campuses should be depoliti-

in this connection. All along changes for education were mainly focussed on 'structure' of the system but rarely had the 'content' been changed."

Dr. S.V. Seshagiri Rao, President of the State Unit of ABVP, observed that illiteracy was the biggest threat to democracy. "As the single largest manpower group, students can be effectively involved in the eradication of illiteracy which is defying all solutions. Vidyarthi Parishad is ready to cooperate if proper schemes are drawn up by the Government in this direction."

He also said that the caste system was cutting at the roots of our national unity. He disclosed that Vidyarthi Parishad would launch a campaign to remove caste denominations in naming the hostels.

Arif Beg  
 at Andhra  
 ABVP  
 Session

cised and a code of conduct evolved for both students and politicians. Changes in the educational system should not be introduced hastily. A national dialogue is necessary



# Why the Chinese love Pigs and Jews and Muslims hate them

LAST WEEK we carried a piece on the rationale of cow worship based on Marvin Harris' "Cow, Pigs, Wars & Witches: The Riddles of Culture".

However cow worship is not the only thing that surprises—the beefeaters. Pig-hate equally surprises—the pork eaters. Why do Westerners and Chinese relish pork—and why do the Semites consider it an anathema?

## PIG AND POLITICS IN CHINA

If the cow is the national animal of India, pig is virtually the national animal of China. Only the other day Linda Mathews wrote in *Los Angeles Times*:

"Pigs and politics are so intertwined in modern China that it is not unusual for its leaders to set out their pig policies with the same care that they use to enunciate their economic programmes or their stance toward the Soviet Union.

"Just the other day, the official newspaper *People's Daily* disclosed that on top of the other crimes committed by the now disgraced 'Gang of Four', they were decidedly anti-pig, too. Before their removal from power, the four radicals had denounced as a dangerous capitalist tendency the innocent Chinese practice of keeping a pig or two in the backyard.

"But now the peasants can revert to their old habit of rearing pigs privately and selling them for profit, the *People's Daily* declared. 'It is an honor to breed pigs for the revolution,' the newspaper said. 'It is a virtue to have fat pigs for sale to the State.'

"The late Chairman Mao Tse-tung laid down the ultimate objective for China's stock-yards: 'One man, one pig'.

"China's pigs still have a long way to go before they reach that goal, but they are gaining. Their number has increased fivefold since the establishment of the People's Republic in 1949, a rate twice as fast as the growth of the human population."

## WHY BALI IS HINDU

In South-East Asia also, the pig is a delicacy. All Indonesia went Muslim, but the little island of Bali did not. Why? One version is that the elder prince of Java went Muslim—and all Javanese embraced Islam with him; the junior prince of Bali remained Hindu—and so the Balinese also continued Hindu. I understand the real reason is that Bali was allowed to remain Hindu so that there were people enough to tend the pigs—the Muslims being debarred from it!

On the other hand the Semites cannot stand the sight, sound, smell or touch of a pig. From Yahweh to Mohammed (Peace be on him) all Semitic prophets tabooed pig and pork. To this day, Jews and Muslims may have a hundred differences; but they are agreed in their rejection of the pig. Why?

After all the pig is not so dirty or ugly or unhygienic that it has to be shunned. According to Harris, "it can convert grains and tubers into high-grade fats and protein more efficiently than any other animal."

Rabbi Maimonides, the Jewish court physician to Saladin during the twelfth century, said that God had forbidden pork because it has "a bad and damaging effect upon the body." When in the nineteenth century, it was found that trichinosis was caused by under-cooked pork, the Semites took it as the scientific explanation for the prophets' injunction. However, this "explanation" explained nothing. If under-cooked pork is injurious, the prophets could have just laid down to cook it properly before eating it; why did they have to ban it altogether? All under-cooked meat is injurious. Under-cooked beef is a source of parasites, notably tape-worms, which can grow to a length of sixteen to twenty feet within a man's intestines, induce severe anaemia and lower resistance to other disease.

Finally, there is anthrax, a disease transmitted by cattle, sheep, goats, horses, and mules but not by pigs. Unlike trichinosis, which seldom has fatal consequences for infected individuals, anthrax often runs a rapid course that begins with body boils and terminates in death through blood poisoning.

Obviously the prophets had other reasons than health in mind when they proscribed pork.

## REAL REASONS

Could this be the filthy nature of the pig? Not quite. Before the Renaissance, the most popular explanation was that the pig is literally a dirty animal—dirtier than others because it wallows in its own urine and eats excrement. But linking physical uncleanness to religious abhorrence leads to inconsistencies. Cows that are kept in a confined space also splash about in their own urine and faeces. And hungry cows will eat human excrement with gusto. Dogs and chickens do the same thing without getting everyone upset, and the ancients must have "known that pigs raised in clean pens make fastidious house pets."

The real reasons are ecological and thermodynamic. Pigs do well in lands with moderate temperature and ample rainfall. Dry heat is fatal to the pig. Also the pig is a competitor for man's food, which a cow or a goat is not. Although its flesh is succulent, the pig does not yield milk—like goats—or wool—like sheep. It is, therefore, very uneconomical in arid West Asia.

In the words of Harris:

The domestic animals best adapted to these arid zones are the ruminants—cattle, sheep, and goats. Ruminants have sacks anterior to their stomachs which enable them to digest grass, leaves, and other foods consisting mainly of cellulose more efficiently than any other mammals.

"The pig, however, is primarily a creature of forests and shaded riverbanks. Although it is omnivorous, its best weight gain is from food low in cellulose—nuts, fruits, tubers, and especially grains, making it a direct competitor of man. It cannot subsist on grass alone. The pig has the further disadvantage of not being a practical source of milk and being notoriously difficult to herd over long distances.

## The Riddles of Culture

"Above all, the pig is thermodynamically ill-adapted to the hot, dry climate of the Negev, the Jordan Valley, and the other lands of the Bible and the Koran. Compared to cattle, goats, and sheep, the pig has an inefficient system for regulating its body temperature. Despite the expression 'To sweat like a pig', it has recently been proved that pigs can't sweat at all. Human beings,

the sweatiest of all mammals, cool themselves by evaporating as much as 1000 grammes of body liquid per hour from each square metre of body surface. The best the pig can manage is 30 grammes per square metre. Even sheep evaporate twice as much body liquid through their skins as pigs. Sheep also have the advantage of thick white wool that both reflects the sun's rays and provides insulation when the temperature of the air rises above that of the body."

To compensate for its lack of protective hair and its inability to sweat, the pig must dampen its skin with external moisture. It prefers to do this by wallowing in fresh clean mud, but it will cover its skin with its own urine and faeces if nothing else is available. Below, 84° F., pigs kept in pens deposit their excreta away from their sleeping and feeding areas, while above 84° F. they begin to excrete indiscriminately throughout the pen. The higher the temperature, the 'dirtier' they become. So there is some truth to the theory that the religious uncleanness of the pig rests upon actual physical dirtiness. Only it is not in the nature of the pig to be dirty everywhere; rather it is in the nature of the hot, arid habitat of the Middle East to make

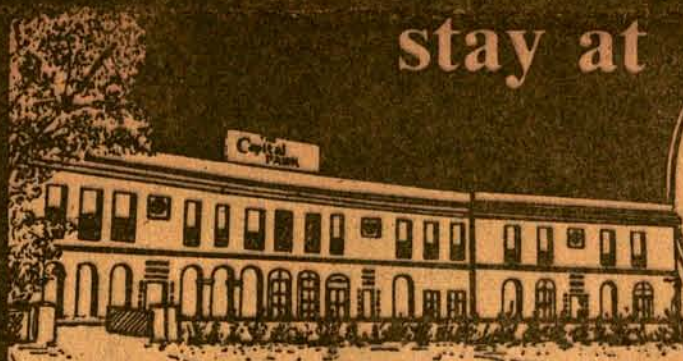
the pig maximally dependent upon the cooling effect of its own excrement.

Among the ancient mixed farming and pastoralist communities of the Middle East domestic animals are valued primarily as sources of milk, cheese, hides, dung, fibre, and traction for ploughing. Goats, sheep, and cattle provided ample amounts of these items plus an occasional supplement of lean meat. From the beginning, therefore, pork must have been a luxury food, esteemed for its succulent, tender, and fatty qualities. For it gives milk, yields no wool and draws no cart.

## WRITES HARRIS:

As in the case of the beef-eating taboo, the greater the temptation, the greater the need for divine interdiction. The Middle East is the wrong place to raise pigs, but pork remains a succulent treat. People always find it difficult to resist such temptations on their own. Hence Yahweh was heard to say that swine were unclean, not only as food, but to the touch as well. Allah was heard to repeat the same message for the same reason: It was ecologically maladaptive to try to raise pigs in substantial numbers. Small-scale production would only increase the temptation. Better, then, to interdict the consumption of pork entirely, and to concentrate on raising goats, sheep, and cattle. Pigs tasted good but it was too expensive to feed them and keep them cool." (K.R.M.)

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BY ALL ACCOUNTS, it is a grim election battle that is being fought in the four major States going to the polls next week. It is natural that the various parties in the fray should try to involve the voters more and more in the issues of their choice. The latter do not seem to have been enthused much so far. Still, two trends are clearly visible among the electorate: populism is at a discount, and even those far removed from the seat of Emergency fiat, are getting involved in the issue of dictatorship vs. democracy. And that is a net gain for the Janata.

It is significant that the External Affairs Minister, Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee, returned two days earlier from Australia, in order to undertake hectic one-week tour of the three States across the Vindhyas. This will offset the supposed advantage of the former PM in attracting larger audiences because of the curiosity value of a fallen star who is still an ace trapeze performer. By contrast, the elderly leaders of the Janata have not been attracting big audiences, generally speaking. Thus Shri Vajpayee will greatly supplement Shri Chandra Shekhar's efforts to present a youthful image of the Janata by the use of his oratory and charisma refurbished by an enviable performance in foreign affairs.

More than one Janata leader, including Shri Jagjivan Ram and Shri Charan Singh, have been put off by the alleged neglect and indifference they had to suffer at the hands of the Bombay unit of the Janata. This partly speaks of the lack of organisational base of the Janata. But it also tells the tale of the top Janata leaders' yearning for addressing at least one big meeting in Bombay. However, it has been a problem for the party to put up such shows by neglecting other more useful aspects of the campaign.

Thus it is said that the anger, excitement and suspense of the March 1977 poll are missing from the present campaign. But this does not mean that the Emergency is not a major issue in the present Assembly elections. The former PM has made many apologies that it was either the then CMs or the bureaucrats and petty officials who botched the whole thing. Such utterances—and promises to behave in future—are, in fact, a welcome reminder of the fact that she has come face to face with the still smouldering mass resentment over her misdeeds which are like permanent pock marks on her political face.

As if to make up for such climb-down about the Emergency, she is nevertheless mak-

ing another heroic effort to resurrect the old ghost of populism which wrought such havoc with the Indian polity. After all her experience in the dangerous decade of her misrule and its anti-climactic end she should have been the first person to realise that the nation's supreme interests demand a return to responsible political behaviour and the cooperative spirit. However, while her cheer-boys

are going about raising the weird new slogan of "Aadhi roti khayenge, Indiraji ko layenge" (we will bring back Indiraji even if we have to live on half a loaf), she herself has threatened to launch a big agitation with the old and discredited slogan of 'Garibi Hatao' as her watchword. However, the "Aadhi Roti" slogan betrays her strategy of using the poor as 'pawns' for the personality cult.

Promises of such and sundry other pyrotechnics have, however further polarised Indian politics on the question of democracy versus dictatorship. She has become once more a symbol of all that is abominable in politics. She is trying to emerge as the leader of sinister, cynical and amoral semi-fascist force. All sane political elements realise that given even a little foothold in the power structure, she can again resort to her old habit of giving shock treatment and making short shrift of the system of checks and balances that the Janata is trying so assiduously to put on the rails again. Shri Nambudiripad's recent statements in Andhra and Karnataka that his party will help Janata form governments in various States even while keeping out, is a measure of Marxists' anxiety over the issue.

It is this cynical game of the former PM which may be a powerful factor in the post-election realignment of political forces that some people visualise.

All democratic elements may have to unite, if a final effort is called for to contain the forces of chaos and disruption. So the argument goes. In this context, the idea of a "national coalition" has also been bandied about. However, Indian politics is unlikely to get stabilised if we do not learn to look beyond elections—and beyond the permutations and combinations of contrary elements. Whatever confusion on the Indian scene is visible today, is an inevitable aftermath of the crack of an authoritarian regime. The present Janata set-up is an ideal one in the sense that it comprises tried fighters

for democracy. It has to be strengthened at the grass-roots. It represents a fresh breeze in a putrefying polity. It will be counter-productive to seek to return to the neo-Congress culture of power under all circumstances as the attempt to classify the Janata elements on the basis of pro-Nehru and anti-Nehru shows.

A recent delegation of the American multinationals is reported to have described Shri Morarji Desai as the head of a "coalition government". The PM was quick to disown the appellation. The Janata Government has achieved stability even without complete obliteration of constituent elements. The process of cohe-

national parties in the arena. The CPI(M) has no alliance with the Janata in Andhra and Assam, and in both these States, the two communist parties have a tacit understanding not to hamper the chances of each other. But while the CPI(M) professes to be anti-Indira Gandhi, the CPI has accepted the dole of six seats by Devaraj Urs in Karnataka. But in Andhra, the same CPI has accepted the patronage of the Reddy Congress.

However, in Kerala, the CPI(M) is willing to join hands with the pro-Indira Karunakaran faction to bring down the ruling coalition headed by the pro-Reddy-Antony faction. The moral of this strange criss-

fellow-travellers of the CPI, who formed a prop of the Reddy Congress immediately before and after the second split, are getting disenchanted with it. They are now complaining of indifference to them by Reddy and Chavan. Not only that. They have even started soft-peddling the myriad sins of Indira Gandhi after a brief interval of strident attacks on her. Political circles in the capital consider this changed stance of the usually vocal leftists as a result of Indira Gandhi's tendentious attacks on the Janata's foreign policy as pro-western. This has won her some new support in the CPI camp, which formulates its national policies always on the basis of Soviet interests. Secondly, these muted leftists fear the veering on the Reddy-Chavan forces to the Janata after the poll.

Simultaneously, the CPI seems to be preparing for another political somersault. The Dange group is re-emerging as the dominant one in the inner-party circles and it is a moot point whether his resignation will be accepted at the next party congress in Bhatinda towards the end of March. This indicates a pro-Indira shift in

(Continued on page 14)

## Emergency is still a live issue in State Assembly elections—and in CPI-CPI(M) wrangles

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# Chief Minister and Dalai Lama laud Vidyarthi Parishad

... From Our Correspondent

**DHARAMSALA:** Making a fervent plea for creation of non-political centres of power in the society, the Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister, Shri Shanta Kumar, told the fourth Pradesh Convention of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad here last week that credit for the recent restoration of

human rights in India went mainly to non-political forces like JP's Sarvodaya movement and the RSS.

The emergency was the climax of the process of concentration of all power in the hands of political persons and it must be reversed completely, he said.

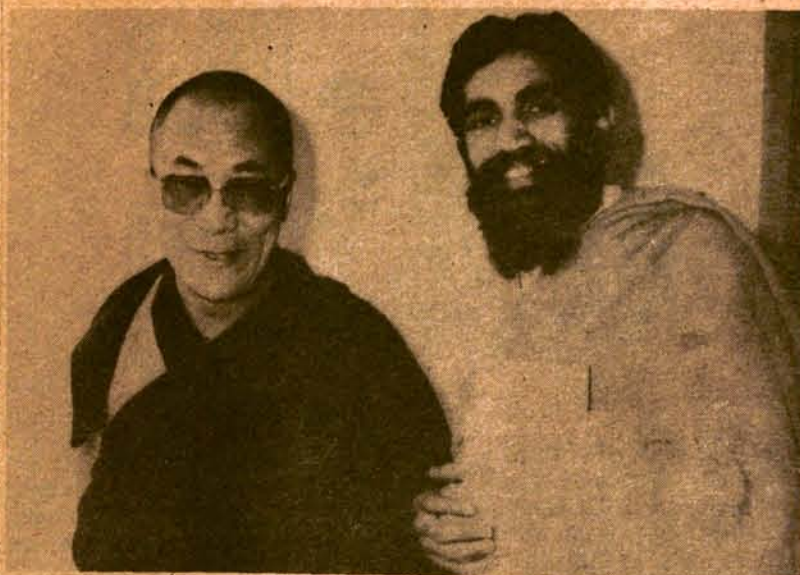
Two hundred and fifty delegates attended the Convention which was inaugurated by Principal P.N. Sharma of the local Government College.

In his presidential address, His Holiness the Dalai Lama said that preservation of human rights in the world was possible

only with the inculcation of virtues like love, justice, brotherhood of man and tolerance, as preached by Gandhiji.

Among those who addressed the conference was Shri Daulat Ram Chauhan who pleaded for cleansing the educational system of all political content which had been the bane of society for the last 30 years.

The General Secretary of the ABVP, Shri Mahesh Sharma, regretted the inadequate expenditure on education and said that such expenditure should be looked upon as a valuable social investment.



ABVP's General Secretary Shri Mahesh Sharma with Dalai Lama

Shri Alok Kumar, Zonal ABVP Secretary, described the ABVP resolution on human

rights at the Varanasi annual conference as historic and explained its various aspects.

## Auction Notice

Auction of one half body truck model 1947, Chevrolet make Registration No. PNJ-2314 will be held on 8.3.78 at 3.00 P.M. in the premises of the Sub Divisional Engineer, Project Public Health Sub Division No. 1, Faridabad Sector No. 7, Industrial-Cum-Housing Estate, Faridabad. The truck is lying in the Public Health Stores, Faridabad, Sector 7, Industrial-Cum-Housing Estate at Faridabad and can be inspected by the intending bidders on any working day.

i) Every bidder will have to deposit Rs. 500/- as earnest money in cash before the Auction is commenced which will be refunded to unsuccessful bidders. But the Earnest Money deposited by the bidder in whose favour the auction is finally announced will be refunded only after the full payment in lieu of the highest bid amount is deposited by him.

ii) 25% of the bid will have to be deposited by the highest bidder on fall of hammer and balance within 3 days after acceptance of the bid. In case the highest bidder fails to deposit the cost of auctioned truck, the earnest money and 25% cost will be forfeited and the truck will be re-auctioned.

iii) The truck will be allowed to be lifted after approval of the Competent Authority and after depositing the full amount of the bid.

iv) The undersigned reserves the full right to reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason what-so-ever.

(O. P. Juneja)  
Executive Engineer  
Project Public Health Division  
Faridabad. Sheela

## India that is Bharat

(Continued from page 13)

everything must have changed for the better. People must be working without striking, Government must have become efficient and prompt, ministers must have stopped making speeches, crime must have disappeared, that rule of law must be prevailing, prices must

Form of notice under Section II of Act VIII of 1890

In the Court of Shri K.S. Sidhu  
District Judge, Delhi.

Guardianship/Act Case No. 35/1978.  
Smt. Chander Kanta W/o Shri Om Parkash R/o H. No. 5060, Ward No. XV Paharganj, New Delhi

1. State . . . . . Petitioner

The petitioner above named having applied to be appointed the Guardian of the person and property of minor Kumari Sunita, Kumari Anita and Kumari Sunita D/o Late Shri Om Parkash

The 2nd day of March, 1978 has been fixed for the hearing of the application, and notice is hereby given to general Public that if any other relative, friend, kinsman or well wisher of the aforesaid minor desire to be appointed or declared as guardian of the person and property of the said minor or desire to oppose the application of the petitioner aforesaid, he should enter appearance in person in this Court. On the aforesaid date, and he prepared to adduce in support of his claim to such appointment of declaration, or in support of his opposition to the application of the petitioner aforesaid.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, this 15th day of February, 1978.

Sd/- K.S. Sidhu  
DISTRICT JUDGE,  
DELHI

have come down and the common man must have become uncommonly happy.

Carried away on the wings of fancy, Vishnu Bhagavan could have gone on and on, had not a severe pinch from his press secretary brought him down to earth. The pressmen looked amused at the imaginative description of an imaginary condition, and one of them asked: "Mr. God, Sir, what would you say if you were told that the total revolution is so complete that we are back to the point from where we started?" Now even

Vishnu, simple-minded though he was, sensed a trap in the question and, after consulting Narad Muni, answered: "I am in that case sure that the Government must have the prevailing conditions under constant consideration."

After these introductory questions the press conference was more or less thrown open to all questions and the following is a transcript from Narad Muni's short-hand notebook:

"What do you think of the Shah Commission asking the former Lt-Governor of Delhi whether he had a mind?"

## Delhi diary

(Continued from page 13)

the Soviet policy also. The former PM's noises about supposed pro-western shift in the Janata policy and go-by to self-reliance, are mainly meant to win over the disenchanted leftist lobby once more to her parlour.

## Arms Race

(Continued from page 4)

Israel, Ethiopia and Somalia, Uganda and Tanzania, and Iraq and Iran. It is not possible to disarm before settling these disputes through peaceful negotiations.

In this respect, India has recently given a lead by settling disputes with Bangladesh and Sri Lanka and by improving bilateral relations with the neighbouring States in general. India has also taken a bold initiative by voluntarily renouncing the nuclear option. But Indian initiatives can have only a limited impact on the total situation. Much more will depend on super-power responses—which do not appear to be encouraging as yet. Both US and the USSR are going ahead with their manufacture and supplies of highly sophisticated armaments. Only last month, the United States contracted to supply an additional four billion dollars worth of super jet fighters to Israel, Saudi Arabia and Iran. And the Soviet Union is involved in a new confrontation in the Horn of Africa. All this hardly bodes well for the outcome of the special UN Session on Disarmament barely three months away. But can mankind evade this overwhelming problem for too long. ● ●

In this context, it is to be remembered that in spite of its recent "self-criticism" of the CPI which Shri Nambodiripad has described as "self-justification", the CPI has blamed only the caucus for its 'extra-constitutional' activities resulting in excesses during the Emergency. As pointed out by the CPI(M) spokesmen, the CPI has so far refrained from directly blaming the former PM for the people's trials and tribulations during those dark 19 months and even earlier, though she was the leader of the caucus. In fact, like the fallen dictator, the CPI still justifies the imposition of the Emergency as a "pre-emptive strike" against the so-called reactionary forces. As late as January 23, 1978, the CPI spokesman Shri Bhupesh Gupta has justified the Emergency in the party paper he edits—on the outrageous plea of "the threats to settle political issues not by ballots but by bullets plus the open call to the armed forces to defy the authorities." This was said in reply to Shri Nambodiripad's fresh attack on the CPI's ambivalent position.

It is clear that the Emergency still stands in the way of the detente between the CPI and the CPI(M). It is, in fact, the stiff attitude of the CPI(M) on this question that has prompted the CPI to retrace its recent hesitant steps towards reunion. Dange's offer to step down seems not to have served its purpose to confuse the CPI(M). Hence the polemics will go on as usual, even while the cadres are said to be co-operating in "people's struggles", and at the trade union level.

"It shows the scientific progress made in this country. When I made men, I put minds in all of them. But now, it seems, your country can make them Governors too."

"What do you think of an illiterate motor mechanic virtually ruling Delhi in the days of the Emergency?"

"It shows the ultimate triumph of democracy, for the protection of which the Emergency was said to have been declared. For did not your Gandhiji once say he wanted a poor Harijan to rise to the Presidency of India! Then did not this motor mechanic's becoming a virtual ruler mean that the dream of Gandhi was half translated into reality by another Gandhi?"

"When, in your considered opinion, will all these Commissions come to an end and the culprits, from Mrs. Gandhi down, brought to justice?"

"I am sure it will be long before the Kali Yuga comes to an end."

"What do you think of Sanjay?"

"He did what Ford could not do. Ford made millions of dollars by making millions of cars. Sanjay made crores of rupees without making a single car!"

"Why did you not visit this country during the Godless days of the Emergency?"

"I would have been taken in under MISA."

"Now that the Foreign Ministry is liberalising the issue of passports, how about liberalising entry permits to heaven?"

"I'm afraid there cannot be relaxation in the rule that only those who achieve Punya can be allowed into heaven—and even they have to return to earth, once their Punya is exhausted. Still if you can produce more saints like Tukaram, any number of them would be welcome."

"One final question, Mr. God. You have already taken so many births in this country in olden days. How about one more?"

"Well, I have taken births in Bharat,—not, not in 'That is India'."

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# When Indira was demonetised

From Our Correspondent

**AHMEDABAD:** Prominent daily newspaper "SANDESH" of Ahmedabad has revealed a very important story in connection with the demonetisation of currency notes of rupees one thousand and above. One of the prominent leaders of Reddy-Chavan Congress has, in an interview with the reporter of SANDESH, ridiculed the claim of Indira Gandhi that she did not possess a single note of demonetised category.

This leader told the reporter that Indira's statement was "a blatant lie" and that the money that Gujarat Pradesh Congress before the latest split

In this context, the above-mentioned GPCC leader recalled an incident in Pradesh Congress office when a prominent Mahila Congress leader was given rupees ten thousand for election expenses in currency notes of rupees one thousand. The woman leader got enraged with this and flung the notes away because of the difficulties in getting them encashed for immediate payment during election.

Reminiscing about events since 1969, another Congress leader candidly admitted that during the last eight years whenever "Operation Topple"

## Revelations by 'Sandesh & Jansatta'

got from the High Command in Delhi, was always in high denomination notes, now demonetised.

He recalled that during the 1975 mid-term General Elections for Gujarat Assembly and later on during the Lok Sabha General Elections this year, the undivided GPCC was given fabulous amounts in high denominations notes. This had evoked protests from district level leaders who found it difficult to encash these notes in the rural areas. But these complaints always fell on deaf ears in Delhi and the flow of rupees continued and higher denomination notes continued.

**P. K. Dhawan**

(Continued from page 16)

in the case of the arrest of officials collecting information about Maruti for reply to a question in the Lok Sabha. It is anybody's guess for how long he can continue to play the faithful to the madam, who will go to any length to save her skin.

Dhawan is said to be a broken man for more than one reasons. He has complained of receiving threatening phone calls from old officers. That is why he has asked for protection.

Still unmarried, Dhawan's family life has become a nightmare. His father Mela Ram, who is over 80, was in the batch comprising P.C. Sethi, Yash Pal Kapoor and others who were arrested in August last for involvement in shady deals. His mother died recently. Also arrested were his two elder brothers—K.L. Dhawan (formerly Privy Secretary to the late President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed) and G.C. Dhawan (formerly Railway Station Master, New Delhi, who has been since reverted to his earlier post of Assistant Station Master). Both the brothers had benefited from their younger brother's mysterious rise to power.

All these circumstances have combined to change his earlier defiant attitude to the Commission when Justice Shah pulled him up for saying "Question does not arise", in reply to a question put to him.

was arranged, large amounts were sent from Delhi to purchase anti-Congress MLAs. These amounts for buying up Ayazams and Gayazams were always despatched through trusted lieutenants of Yashpal Kapoor in high denomination notes. Observers at Ahmedabad airport were used to seeing these Kapoor men alighting from the planes with two bags in hand which they would clutch as if their very lives were packed in those bags. These bags used to contain the now notorious currency notes of rupees five thousand each.

Another Ahmedabad daily, JANASATTA, had in this connection come out eight months ago with a sensational news report in which the story of high denomination notes was confirmed. According to JANASATTA of May 7, 1977, a transport company connected with high level Congress leaders named "Romica Enterprise" had provided scores of Jeeps

## Antyodaya

(Continued from page 2)

that Lift Irrigation would prove very costly; it would also deprive Jaisalmer, the main desert region, of water from Rajasthan Canal. Government, therefore, has decided to continue with the work of the main Rajasthan Canal, the target date for the completion of which has now fixed at 1984. Government would make necessary financial allocations for this gigantic project known as the "Ganga of the Desert." The Janata Government's decision can be described as bold because it has decided to complete the second half of the canal in a matter of 6-7 years, whereas the first half took full twenty years!

## Chief Justice

(Continued from page 1)

On the other hand since Justice Chandrachud is young enough to preside over the Supreme Court for almost eight years, it would give the judiciary the needed continuity, stability and direction.

During these eight long years most of the old judges will have retired—giving room to new judges appointed solely on the basis of merit.

# From R.K. Mission to USIS to Indira Gandhi

**NEW DELHI:** Over the last few months, reports have repeatedly appeared in a section of the Press concerning one Damodaran Nair.

Shri Nair is supposed to be in trouble for telling everybody who will listen, that Gandhiji was murdered by Godse, "an RSS man". He has refused to correct himself even after the Prime Minister and Home Minister made it clear that Godse was not an RSS man.

The latest to carry this story was 'THE STATESMAN' of New Delhi (Feb. 11, page 1).

A little research has shown that Shri Nair is quite a character. And anti-RSS and anti-Janata elements are only using him to malign both.

After matriculation Damodaran joined the Ramakrishna Ashram, Kalady, Kerala. He wanted to be a Swami. But soon after he decided he wanted to be B.A.

for use in Lok Sabha poll in March last. Fabulous amounts were sent from Delhi in high denomination notes for payment for these vehicles.

According to JANASATTA, one of the top leaders in charge of the Congress campaign had complained to Romica Enterprise representative that these high denomination notes would create complications in the

Damodaran joined St. Berchman's College, Changanacherry. From here he was rusticated.

Some time later he started a school in Bangalore. It is not clear what the charges against him were, but soon after he was convicted and sent to jail. His school was never heard of again.

## The Story of Damodaran Nair

Damodaran now arrived in Delhi. Soon he was serving the U.S. Information Service in Bahawalpur House. Here he was found a nosey-poke. His services were terminated.

From the USIS, Damodaran landed in Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi. Here he was Indira's man against JP. Shri

Radhakrishnan, Secretary, GPF, found him insufferable and terminated his services.

For his services to Indira, he was found a berth in Gandhi Smriti, the Gandhi memorial near Rajghat. Although he was supposed to be doing some "research", he insisted on taking visitors round and telling them that Gandhi's assassin was an RSS man.

After repeated warnings, Gandhi Smriti also terminated his services. Damodaran, however, is still living in a room on the premises.

It is not clear who is financing him. One thing, however, is clear. He is very close to the former PM. He can walk into her house any time. The other day she introduced him to some foreign journalists when, he chortled the Godse tale.

The journalists were not amused.

## Guilty Silence

(Continued from page 1)

a 'hi' but called out a servant. The servant was told to bring a hammer. He came, broke the seals and opened the two boxes.

Although the top was covered with soot, the jewellery shone bright through it.

Nehru was thoroughly pleased. He asked Mr. D. what else he had brought. When he mentioned "some Chinese tea", Nehru laughed and said: "You can keep that." He added: "And whenever you feel like, you can drop in for a cup of tea."

## "INDESTRUCTIBLE CODE"

Mr. D. never did. He had the feeling that, in the course of his official duties, he had been made to go something fishy.

During the quarter century that has elapsed since, 'Mr. D. has told only a very few close friends about it, including a former Chief Secretary of Bombay, Mr. P. But he has kept Nehru's cipher telegram. And he is sure copies of the same would be available both on New Delhi and Tokyo. "They are indestructible", he says.

An inquiry into this mystery could help provide a key to the bigger mystery of Netaji's disappearance.

## Chief Minister Antony to marry at last

From Our Correspondent

**COCHIN:** The bachelor Chief Minister of Kerala will not remain single for much longer according to reports current here. Shri A.K. Antony is to undertake an excursion into matrimony.

Antony, who is reported to be always ready to satisfy each and every wish of his aged mother, has now agreed to marry at her express wish. His mother is said to have told Antony that she would like to see him married, now that her first son, Antony's elder brother, is married. Antony, without demur, agreed to the suggestion.

The change of residence, though necessitated by the handing over of the Government Guest House to the Southern Railways for their newly created Trivandrum Division, is, in fact, the prelude to the Chief Minister's excursion into matrimony.

According to information available here, Shri Antony would marry the daughter of Revenue Minister Baby John. This alliance with the Revenue Minister would not only strengthen Antony's hands politically but also improve his position

financially which, up to now, has not been quite satisfactory.

Antony's former friends in the "Youth Congress" have all got married recently. Antony is the only one who is still a bachelor. This has made Antony think of matrimony which, according to his former friends and colleagues, would enable him to get away from the cares and worries of office for at least sometime.

Reports are that Antony may not remain the Chief Minister of Kerala for long. With the exit of C.M. Stephen from the party, there is every chance of half a dozen M.L. As. quitting Antony's Congress and going over to the Indira group led by the former Chief Minister, Shri K. Karunakaran. Shri Karunakaran himself pointed out recently that Antony and his group may be reduced to a small 'caucus' in the ruling coalition. An alliance with Shri Baby John will therefore be of considerable help to Antony both financially and politically.



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## Dhawan is a broken man

By Our Special Correspondent

**NEW DELHI:** The former Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, is likely to be charge-sheeted for corruption on specific counts soon after the Assembly poll, according to political circles in the Capital.

Neither the rigging up of a new party as a personal tool nor the Assembly election results, are likely to help her in this respect. And the deepening ring of desperation in her recent public pronouncements shows that she is aware of what is in store for her.

Meanwhile, the leading lights of her Emergency caucus are also marching to their doom. Sanjay and Shukla have failed to delay proceedings in the 'Kissa Kursi Ka' case by a recourse to the Supreme Court. They have been committed for a criminal trial for theft and conspiracy to destroy the prints of the film.

Simultaneously, the Shah Commission is moving inexor-

ably to fix the Emergency caucus' responsibility on specific charges.

Realisation of such an inevitability has already split the caucus so that after B.R. Tamta, the former Commis-

made by Navin Chawla, a Sanjay crony who was planted as Special Secretary to the former Lt. Governor, and who acted as the hatchetman of the caucus in Delhi.

However, it is the collapse of R.K. Dhawan that seems to have broken the back of the resistance of the caucus. Now he is reported to be willing to reveal vital facts even about the foreign hoardings of caucus members.

In the case of the raid on Pandit Brothers, a new Delhi firm run by close relatives of Shri P.N. Haksar, the former Principal Secretary to the then PM, Dhawan has blamed Sanjay, and given credit to the former PM for putting her foot down and ordering release of two aged partners of the firm.

However, the former PM has already contradicted Dhawan

**Wants to  
make  
a clean  
breast  
of it all**

sioner of Delhi Municipal Corporation, now the almighty R.K. Dhawan, the source of many "orders from above", has sought the "protection" of the Government to make a clean breast of it all.

The same offer has been

(Continued on page 15)

## Caucus men in sensitive posts

From Our Correspondent

**AHMEDABAD:** During the heyday of Indira, many relations of her lieutenants were planted in strategic positions in sensitive organisations like Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Physical Research Laboratory (PRL). Some of the personnel are also connected with Yashpal Kapoor and Bansilal.

In one of these organisations, the head of the institution is a close relative of Shri Ramnath Rao of RAW. He got very quick promotions during the Emergency. Yesmen of this high official have been allowed to make their way into Electronics and Space Research

sections. Close relations of Yashpal Kapoor and Dhawan have reached high posts in ISRO.

Physical Research Laboratory in Ahmedabad is a nationally reputed concern doing useful work. But it could have done without the services of a close friend of Surendra Singh, the infamous son of Bansilal of Haryana. It should be noted in this context that many vital posts of the organisations connected with Atomic Energy, Space Research and Electronics are filled from top to bottom with close friends or relatives of Indira Gandhi and R. K. Dhawan. An inquiry should

be instituted to see how far they deserved to be there.

There have been dangerous explosions in the Heavy Water Plant and Ukai Hydro-Electric Power Station. Looking to the antecedents of the Indira-men placed in strategic positions in the above concerns, the above-mentioned explosions could lead to justifiable suspicions. While the final judgement on the above-mentioned persons in strategic places should await further close scrutiny, it is high time the Union Government woke up to the situation and make a thorough-going probe into such organisations in Gujarat and elsewhere.

## PERISCOPE

**FANTASTIC:** Way back in 1965, when she was still I & B Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi visited the USA. She gave a lecture on "Nehru's Foreign Policy" at Brandies University, Waltham, near Boston. For this lecture she was paid \$ 86000—that is rupees seven lakhs only—by the Carnegie Foundation. For what consideration she got this fantastic "fee" is a mystery.

Did the madam bring this money to India? If so, did she pay income tax and wealth tax on it? If not, WHY NOT?

**WORDS VS. DEEDS:** The former PM who said soon after demonetisation that even a ten-rupee-note was a 'luxury' for her, and repeated these famous words at Calcutta airport recently on her way to Assam, passed the night in a Rs. 500 per day hotel room at the airport in city.

She was scheduled to address a meeting at the Brigade Maidan on her way back from Assam but her party manager cancelled it for fear of disturbances and general cry of "Dictator, Go Back".

Instead, she addressed a meeting of party workers in a corner of the airport where she announced her intention of starting a 'Garibi Hatao' movement. She added ominously that 'she could not predict whether it would remain peaceful or turn violent.'

**AGENT PROVOCATEURS:** On February 7, Delhi Doorshan telecast a programme entitled "Khabren Boltt Hein". The programme was supposed to expose the undesirable activities of idol thieves. But it had no such effect on the viewers. On the other hand it nauseated them by producing Shiva, Vishnu, Indra Krishna, Lakshmi and Parvati in trousers and other mod costumes, smoking away like any street loafers.

Since the I and B Minister is out on the campaign trail, nobody in the ministry has bothered even to institute an inquiry. Obviously agent provocateurs are busy creating unpleasant situations.

**SHRADHA MATA:** Shradha Mata who, according to M.O. Mathi, had illicit relations with Nehru, culminating in the birth of a male child in a Bangalore Catholic mission, is now living in the small Mughal fort of Hathroi in Jaipur.

She denies the allegation. Right now she is busy doing a 70-page booklet on "My relationship with Nehru and the influence I had on him", entitled "Come to Light". She believes that "some Foreign hands, communistic hands, some Muslims, some Christians, all sorts of people" got busy to separate Nehru from her. This was because, she says, she was influencing Nehru in favour of Hindi, Sanskrit, Dharma.

**BELIEVE IT OR NOT:** Believe it or not, the Information and Broadcasting Minister of the Government of India is still I.K. Gujral—and not Shri L.K. Advani, as the public believes.

The Press Information Bureau handout in Malayalam, V.P. 321, dated February 6, 1978, speaking about the dubbing of regional language pictures into other languages, states that "Information and Broadcasting Minister I.K. Gujral" has expressed his Government's intention of regional pictures being dubbed into other languages. The Information and Broadcasting Minister is reported to have made this statement to the members of Parliament who constitute the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Blessed indeed are the ignorant and the ill-informed, for they shall inherit this earth—at least in that part of this earth which is known as India that is Bharat.

**INSIDE AMU.** All is not well with Aligarh Muslim University. Recently there was an armed fight between two sections of the students.

Admissions are supposed to be over by August; actually they go on till January.

Under the rules, the VC can make 15% admissions by nomination. Actually, according to the President of AMU Teachers Association, in the Engineering College, 80% of the students have been admitted, not on merit, but by nomination.

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